

Prime Minister visited the KVMRT project's Sungai Buloh depot

Read on for full news of the visit.

Date: 11 November 2015

Prime Minister Dato' Sri Najib Tun Razak visited the Klang Valley MRT project depot at Sungai Buloh on 11 November 2015. The visit was part of his continuous support towards the project in ensuring that it is progressing on schedule for it to be fully operational in July 2017.

This is Najib's first visit to the Sungai Buloh Depot. The visit is however his fourth to the Project since its commencement. He had previously visited the Cochrane Launch Shaft twice and the Tun Razak Exchange Station once.

The MRT Depot Sungai Buloh will be the biggest train depot in Southeast Asia once construction is complete. It measures approximately 2km long and 0.5km wide. It will serve both the MRT Sungai Buloh-Kajang Line (SBK Line) and MRT Sungai Buloh-Serdang-Putrajaya Line (SSP Line).

At hand to greet the Prime Minister at the depot were MRT Corp. Chairman Tan Sri Dr Ali Hamsa, who is also the Chief Secretary to the Government; MRT Corp Chief Executive Officer Dato' Sri Shahril Mokhtar; MRT Corp Board of Director and Senior Management.

Also present were representatives from the Project Delivery Partner, MMC Gamuda KVMRT (PDP) Sdn Bhd; and the Project's Work Package Contractors for Electric Trains Siemens and SMH Rail Sdn Bhd.

During the visit, the Prime Minister was brought to Rolling Stock Maintenance Workshop where he was shown the MRT trains that have been fully assembled and were undergoing testing.

A total of 58 trains will operate along the SBK Line, allowing a frequency of one train every 3.5 minutes during peak hours. Each train, which is driverless, is made of four cars. Each train has a total capacity of 1,200 passengers. The trains, which are supplied by Siemens of Germany, is completely assembled in Malaysia by SMH Rail Sdn Bhd in its plant in Rasa, Hulu Selangor. It is the first train to be fully assembled in Malaysia.

Shahril expressed confidence that the trains, which will be the main touch point between MRT Corp and commuters, will give users a good experience in commuting. "Our modern trains will be clean, comfortable, reliable and safe. We hope this will encourage the public to leave their cars at home and use public transport when going into the city," he said.

As at 30 September 2015, the SBK Line's overall completion was at 72.25%. Progress for Elevated Works was at 64.57% while Underground Works at 81.76%.

Operations for the first phase for the SBK Line between Sungai Buloh and Semantan Stations is expected to commence in December 2016. Operations for the second phase, comprising the remainder of the line from Semantan to Kajang Stations is expected to commence in July 2017.