

Liow: it's Najib's legacy

The opening of the second phase of the Mass Rapid Transit (MRT) Line is a national milestone in public transportation, said Transport Minister Datuk Seri Liow Tiong Lai yesterday.

He said this was especially useful for the public in the Greater Kuala Lumpur-Klang Valley areas.

“It is my fervent hope that we will continue to enhance the efficiency of public transportation,” he said at the launch of the MRT Sungai Buloh–Kajang (SBK) Line here.

Liow said the MRT SBK Line would provide better accessibility to commuters along the route. He said the line was designed to ensure integration with existing and future rail services, such as the light rail transit (LRT), LRT3, MRT3 and KTM Komuter.

“These interchanges will provide a holistic network of land public transport in the government’s efforts to provide safe, secure and seamless public transportation services.

“With the opening of the MRT Semantan-Kajang route today (yesterday), I strongly believe that the number of ridership will increase tremendously.”

Liow congratulated Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak for his efforts to raise the country’s public transport system to be on a par with other developed countries.

“I would call him (Najib) the ‘Father of Modern Public Transportation’ because this will be his legacy. “We are now able to transform Kuala Lumpur and simultaneously connect to the east coast through the East Coast Rail Link.

“This is a very well-planned public transport system.” The second phase of the MRT SBK Line, which was launched at the Tun Razak Exchange underground station has 19 new stations, of which seven are located underground.

The 19 stations are Muzium Negara, Pasar Seni, Dataran Merdeka, Bukit Bintang, Tun Razak Exchange, Cochrane, Maluri, Taman Pertama, Taman Midah, Taman Mutiara, Taman Connaught, Taman Suntex, Sri Raya, Bandar Tun Hussein Onn, Batu Sebelas Cheras, Bukit Dukung, Sungai Jernih, Kajang Stadium and Kajang.

Each train set serving the MRT SBK line will have four cars, allowing a total capacity of 1,200 passengers per trip with a daily ridership estimated at 400,000 commuters.