

# KERATAN AKHBAR

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## New Putrajaya MRT line opens

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**KUALA LUMPUR:** The opening of the Mass Rapid Transit (MRT) Putrajaya Line is expected to spur and revitalise development in old, existing areas, as well as areas yet to be developed, said Prime Minister Datuk Seri Ismail Sabri Yaakob.

He said with the opening of the new line, the government was confident that areas located along the alignment, such as Jinjang, Sungai Buloh, Kepong and Bandar Sri Damansara would develop more

rapidly to be on par with other areas.

"The MRT Putrajaya Line Phase 1 involves the route from Kwasa Damansara to Kampung Batu while Phase 2, which is almost fully completed, involves the route from Kampung Batu to Putrajaya.

"The Phase 2 route will run across strategic areas, including the Kuala Lumpur city centre with underground stations at Titiwangsa, Kuala Lumpur Hospital, Ampang Park, Persiaran KLCC and Tun Razak Exchange," he said at the launch of

the MRT Putrajaya Line Phase 1 at the Kampung Batu MRT station yesterday.

Ismail Sabri also said the new line was expected to act as a catalyst to improve connections between residents and communities, especially those living close to the line.

"It will be easier for the people to move around and commute to work, to socialise and to access other public facilities."

The 57.7km line has 36 stations, 27

elevated and nine underground, involving a total construction cost of RM30.53 billion.

In celebration of the opening, Ismail Sabri announced free rides for one month on all public transport options operated by RapidKL, namely MRT, Light Rail Transit, Bus Rail Transit, Monorel and RapidKL buses, starting immediately.

"I hope members of the Malaysian Family will take this opportunity to try using public transport by parking their cars at the Park N Ride facility

and take a ride on the MRT."

Ismail Sabri said the full opening of the MRT Putrajaya Line was projected to record an initial daily passenger volume of over 104,000, that is expected to reduce traffic congestion currently plaguing the capital.

He added that it was the government's aim to provide a safe, efficient, sustainable and reliable public transport system in accordance with the National Transport Policy. - Bernama