

LIGHT RAIL

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KUALA LUMPUR, OCT 27 (BERNAMA) -- A FEASIBILITY STUDY ON THE PROPOSED LIGHT RAIL TRANSIT (LRT) SYSTEM LINKING PETALING JAYA AND THE CITY WILL BE CARRIED OUT BY THE GOVERNMENT, FEDERAL TERRITORY MINISTER DATUK SHAHRIR SAMAD SAID TODAY.

HE, HOWEVER, DID NOT SAY WHEN THE STUDY WOULD BEGIN.

HE SAID THE FIRST LINE OF THE LRT SYSTEM - COVERING A DISTANCE OF 18.5 KM - WOULD LINK THE PROPOSED TOWNSHIP OF SENTUL WITH SS 5 IN PETALING JAYA.

mahathir *P*
SPEAKING TO REPORTERS AFTER MEETING BELGIAN SECRETARY OF STATE FOR FOREIGN TRADE ENCIK ANDRE KEMPINAIRE, HE SAID THE SYSTEM WAS NOT TO COMPETE WITH THE PROPOSED AEROBUS SYSTEM AS THE LATTER WAS MEANT TO SERVE COMMUTERS WITHIN THE CITY ONLY.

HE SAID A SURVEY REPORT SUBMITTED BY THE ASSOCIATION OF BELGIUM CONSORTIUMS SHOWED THAT THE SYSTEM WOULD TAKE ABOUT THREE-AND-HALF COMPLETE AT A COST BETWEEN \$520 AND \$550 MILLION.

HE ADDED THAT THE BELGIAN GOVERNMENT HAD OFFERED A GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMENT LOAN OF 4.5 PER CENT (ABOUT \$25 MILLION) OF THE TOTAL COST OF THE PROJECT AT TWO PER CENT INTEREST PAYABLE OVER A PERIOD OF 30 YEARS. -- MORE 2010/II

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DATUK SHAHRIR SAID THE RUNNING OF THE LRT SYSTEM WOULD MOST LIKELY BE HANDED OVER TO THE PRIVATE SECTOR.

HE SAID THE LRT SYSTEM, RUNNING AT REGULAR A REGULAR SIX-MINUTE INTERVAL WOULD HELP EASE THE CURRENT TRAFFIC CONGESTION AND THE PUBLIC WOULD FIND IT ECONOMICAL TO COMMUTE BETWEEN THE CITY AND PETALING JAYA.

THE SURVEY HAD ALSO WORKED OUT A FARE OF BETWEEN 80 SEN AND \$1 PER TRIP WITH WELL STRATEGIC PLACED STATIONS PLANNED OUT ALONG THE ROUTE.

THE PROPOSED STATIONS WOULD INCLUDE THE DAMAI COMPLEX, SULAIMAN COURT, CITY HALL, DAYA BUMI COMPLEX, BANGSAR AND KAMPUNG MERINCI.

HE SAID THE LRT SYSTEM COULD EVENTUALLY BE EXTENDED TO COVER THE WHOLE KELANG VALLEY. -- MORE 2015/II

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THE BELGIAN MADE LRT SYSTEM CAN ACCOMMODATE 247 PASSENGERS IN EACH COACH AND TRAVELS UP TO A MAXIMUM SPEED OF 75 KM. PER HOURS.

A SIMILAR SYSTEM IS BEING CONSTRUCTED IN MANILA COVERING A DISTANCE OF 10 KM. -- BERNAMA 2016/II