

ERL expected to draw 8,000 passengers daily

BT 12 APR 2002

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EXPRESS rail link (ERL), the high-speed train service linking the Kuala Lumpur City Air Terminal (KL CAT) and the KL International Airport (KLIA) in Sepang, is expected to attract about 8,000 passengers daily when the service is operational.

The train service will be launched by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad tomorrow.

ERL Sdn Bhd is the concessionaire for the RM2.4 billion rail project linking the KLIA and KL CAT for a period of 30 years. KLIA Express is scheduled to begin commercial operations on April 19.

The KLIA Express is expected to carry about 10,000 passengers daily during its full

year of operation while the KLIA Transit is expected to carry around 2,000 to 5,000 commuters taking trains at Bandar Tasik Selatan, Putrajaya and Salak Tinggi.

It is targeting to attract 20 per cent of the total passengers using KLIA — mainly business travellers and high-end leisure travellers.

The service will be a central element in the Government's strategy to enhance the role of the KLIA.

Cruising at a speed of 160kph, KLIA Express, which has a seating capacity for 150 passengers, takes about 28 minutes to reach KLIA. The KLIA Transit (540 seating capacity) takes an additional eight minutes to reach the airport.