

# Malaysia to give used railway parts to Cambodia

By FREDERICK FERNANDEZ

PORT KLANG: Malaysia will donate second-hand rail bridges and railway track material to Cambodia.

Transport Minister Datuk Seri Dr Ling Liong Sik said the material would be used to build part of the Trans-Asian Rail Link in the Cambodian sector.

He said Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad had given approval for the used rail parts to be sent to Cambodia in the spirit of Asean camaraderie.

"These second-hand rail parts were removed when we built the double-tracks for our main railway lines a few years ago and since they are still in good condition we are giving

them to Cambodia," said Dr Ling.

The minister said the Government had yet to determine the quantity of the second-hand rail bridges and parts to be sent to Cambodia.

"We are also finalising the costing and transportation of the parts to be sent to Cambodia," he said after meeting a seven-man Chinese delegation led by its Communications Minister, Huang Zhendong, at the Klang Port Authority yesterday.

Dr Ling said his brief discussions with Huang prior to the Asean+China Transport Ministers Meeting in Jakarta from tomorrow until Friday also touched on the Trans-Asian rail link from Singapore to Kunming, China.

He said China was commit-

ted to see the realisation of the rail link which would boost the output from the container terminals and industries along the area.

"We are still finalising ways to overcome the 'missing link' from Phnom Penh and Sisophon, measuring about 48km and another stretch from Phnom Penh to Locnich, measuring about 240km."

Dr Ling said Malaysia had a lot to learn from China which, at present, had three ports that were among the world's top 10 namely Hong Kong, Shanghai and Shenzhen.

Huang said China was committed to increase trade with Asean, particularly with Malaysia and was willing to share expertise in areas such as port engineering and expansion of port facilities.