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MODERN PUBLIC TRANSPORT

'GO FOR ZERO BREAKDOWNS'

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Set benchmark for reliability at the highest level, Najib tells Prasarana employees

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PRIME Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak has urged public transport employees to give their best and strive for zero breakdowns.

In laying the foundation for Malaysia's future modern public transportation, he said they must set the benchmark for reliability at the highest level.

"Strive for a culture of high-performance by instilling a sense of pride in the work we do.

"Treat our work as if it is a work of art," he said during a town hall session with some 2,600 Syarikat Prasarana Negara Bhd (Prasarana) employees here yesterday.

In his address, Najib expressed his gratitude and admiration for Prasarana's staff, saying they had contributed to the economy by working round the clock to ensure an efficient public transport system.

Najib said the economic returns Prasarana generated last year were estimated to be worth RM13.3 billion and was expected to reach RM17 billion this year.

Economic returns are based on savings in commuting time, vehicle maintenance, time saved for non-commuters and environmental impact.



Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak, flanked by Prasarana group chairman Tan Sri Ismail Adam (left) and group chief executive officer Datuk Seri Azmi Abdul Aziz, taking a selfie with Prasarana employees in Kuala Lumpur yesterday. PIC BY MOHD YUSNI ARIFFIN

He said the economic returns would increase when the public transport modal share, currently at 21 per cent, increased to 40 per cent by 2030.

On a related matter, he said the government did the right thing in reforming public transport as part of the seven National Key Result Areas under the Government Transformation Programme.

An integrated public transport system that was efficient, reliable, affordable and commuter friendly was what the people wanted, he said.

Citing the success of the second phase of the Klang Valley's Mass Rapid Transit project, he said the government had fulfilled the people's aspirations.

"Previously, the public transportation in the capital city was fragmented, with three different systems.

"Back then, there was no SPAD (Land Public Transport Commission) or a government body to integrate the systems.

"A condition for success in urban public transportation is an integrated approach, or it will fail."