

Parliament: Minibuses May Be Back If Convenient For Commuters
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KUALA LUMPUR, Dec 21 (Bernama) -- The government will consider the need to reintroduce the minibus service in the city if it is convenient for commuters of public transport, the Dewan Negara was told Wednesday.

Deputy Transport Minister Jelaing Mersat said, however, that the reintroduction would not take place in the near future because the government is implementing several measures to upgrade the existing public transport system in the city.

"The upgrading is still in the implementation stage. In fact, we are waiting for several new trains from abroad," he said when replying to a supplementary question, from Senator Datuk Mustafa Kamal Mohd Yusoff.

The senator had wanted to know the ministry's stand on the reintroduction of the minibus service which was terminated in 1998.

Replying to the original question, from Senator Datuk Abdul Rahim Abdul Rahman, on the government measures to upgrade the existing public transport system, Jelaing said the primary step was the setting up of the Land Public Transportation Commission (SPAD).

"SPAD is responsible for organising and monitoring the public transport service industry and ensuring compliance with the level of service.

"Furthermore, through the National Key Result Area (NKRA) initiative, the government also focuses on enhancing the capacity and efficiency of the commuter train system and light rail transit system, restructuring the city bus system and upgrading public transport stations," he said.

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