

**Muhyiddin : Public Transport For 600,000 Passengers In Klang Valley**  
**Bernama**  
**March 8, 2012**

KUALA LUMPUR, March 8 (Bernama) -- The government, under the National Key Result Area (NKRA) policy, wants the use of public transport in the Klang Valley to reach 25 per cent or 600,000 passengers during the peak hours, said Deputy Prime Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin.

He said the initiative to enhance the national public transport (NKRA-UPT) had begun two years ago and today, the Klang Valley public transport system had been modernised with the arrival of 38 sets of sophisticated commuter trains for the Keretapi Tanah Melayu Berhad (KTMB), called MyKomuter.

"Continuous efforts by the Ministry of Transport, particularly the NKRA Unit and the KTMB in raising the quality of public amenities, especially the railway, reflects the continued concern of the Barisan Nasional (BN) government on the importance of public transport in the country," he said in his speech when launching the MyKomuter set which began operations from KL Sentral today.

He said that the use of KTM Komuter during the peak hours today had reached 1.4 times the passenger capacity limit where the commuter coach could only carry 150 passengers but today, it had to carry 200 passengers at any one time.

"This causes discomfort to the passengers and also resulted in several other problems cropping up including maintenance, delays in scheduling and the cancellation of services.

As a result, consumers chose to opt for their private vehicles as the mode of transport for daily tasks especially during the peak hours between 7am and 9am," he said.

For the comfort of the people, the BN government had invested RM1.9 billion to acquire 38 sets of sophisticated MyKomuter which would be absorbed into the KTMB services in stages, he said.

Muhyiddin said this initiative would not stop at the Klang Valley but would be extended throughout the country.

"To date, the Malaysian government has received 16 sets of MyKomuter from China, where four of them had already undergone stringent safety tests under the Land Public Transport Commission (SPAD) while the remaining 12 trains were undergoing tests and commissioning," he said.

All these trains had passed the stringent standards set by the international commissioning agency, namely the TUV (Technical Inspection Association), he said.

Members of the public using the MyKomuter service would receive free coupons worth RM2 which could be used for a six-month period, to board the train beginning today, he said.

For public convenience, KTMB also provided a 50 per cent discount for the purchase of

weekly tickets and free transport for students wearing uniforms, the handicapped and senior citizens for six somths.

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