

BUDGET: Government's Incentives Give Opportunity For More People To Use Public Transport
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KUALA LUMPUR, Sept 28 (Bernama)-- The various incentives provided by the government, including in the 2013 Budget, give the people more opportunity to use public transport, Land Public Transport Commission (SPAD) chairman Tan Sri Syed Hamid Albar said today.

"With the launch of RapidKuantan, the 50 per cent discount on Kereta Api Tanah Melayu (KTM) Komuter fares to all Malaysians with a monthly income of RM3,000, as well as the RM10,000 rebate and two per cent interest for new bus loan for bus operators, it shows that the government wants the quality of public transportation to be at its best and can be enjoyed by all levels of the society," he added.

Commenting on the 2013 Budget tabled by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak in Parliament today, Syed Hamid said the provision of an allocation to set up an insurance protection scheme for students using the school bus service proved that the government was concerned with the people's safety.

He hoped that with the various facilities provided, the people would make public transportation their choice to reduce traffic congestion.

"That is actually our objective. If more people have confidence in the quality of our public transportation, traffic congestion can be reduced," he added.

Meanwhile, Group Managing Director of Syarikat Prasarana Negara Berhad, Datuk Shahril Mokhtar, said the company felt honoured to be given the trust by the government to operate the bus service in Kuantan, scheduled to be launched on Dec 1.

"We will use our expertise, experience in handling the RapidKL and RapidPenang bus services to ensure success of RapidKuantan," he added.

Federation of Malaysian Consumers Association (Fomca) vice-president, Siti Rahayu Zakaria, said the 50 per cent discount on KTM Komuter fares for Malaysians with a monthly income of RM3,000 and below would encourage more people to use the service.

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