

No extra cost for government in MRT project, says PM
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Putrajaya will not bear any cost increases in the ongoing construction of the RM23 billion Sg Buloh-Kajang MRT project despite the depreciation of the ringgit.

In a written reply, Finance Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak said the contracts were inked before the ringgit declined.

"The depreciation of the ringgit does not have any effect on cost increases involving the Sg Buloh-Kajang MRT project.

"This is because the value of all construction contracts, including contracts that involve foreign contractors, are in ringgit.

"The contracts were signed before the depreciation of the ringgit. As such, any increases in cost due to this will be borne by the contractors," he told Datuk Ahmad Fauzi Zahari (BN-Setiawangsa).

He said to date, the plunge of the ringgit saw contractors bearing RM600,000 in additional costs.

Najib also said the Sg Buloh-Kajang MRT line is on track and is now 70.21% completed.

The first phase of the project, between Sg Buloh and Semantan is expected to be completed and operational on December 31, 2016, while phase two of the project from Semantan to Kajang is scheduled to be completed and operational on July 31, 2017. – October 22, 2015.

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