

**Provider of urban public transport system:  
Prasarana**

by Ir. Tan Seng Khoon

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Solutions to urban traffic congestion remain as elusive as ever. No amount of building new highways can catch up with the increase in the number of privately owned cars thereby causing negative externalities.

At the end, the consensus appears to focus on providing a system of comfortable public transport as panacea that attracts private car owners to take public transport by leaving their cars at homes.

Hence, providers of urban public transport system have a meaningful role to play in solving urban traffic congestion. It is with this in mind that a party of 34 IEM members visited Prasarana central control operation centre in Kelana Jaya, Petaling Jaya with the view to understand their business.

Prasarana Malaysia Berhad, or Prasarana in short (formerly known as Syarikat Prasarana Negara Berhad) takes after a new name in July, 2014 to reflect their current roles and business operations.

Established in 1998 and operational since 2002, Prasarana is the asset owner and operator of the country's two LRT networks and the KL Monorail. In addition, they provide bus services that take the brand names of RapidKL, RapidPenang and RapidKuantan.

The year 2013 saw Prasarana undertook a massive corporate restructuring exercise to further improve the company's position as an urban public transport provider. Prasarana formed four new subsidiaries: Rapid Rail Sdn Bhd, Rapid Bus Sdn Bhd, Prasarana Integrated Management & Engineering Services Sdn Bhd (PRIME), and Prasarana Integrated Development Sdn Bhd (PRIDE).

Both the LRT and Monorail are operated by Rapid Rail Sdn Bhd, while the bus services are run by Rapid Bus Sdn Bhd.

For marketing purposes, RapidKL is the brand name for Prasarana services in Klang Valley. RapidKL operates the Ampang Line LRT (previously known as STAR-LRT) runs from Sentul Timur to Ampang and Sri Petaling. On the other hand, the Kelana Jaya Line LRT (previously known as PUTRA-LRT) runs from Kelana Jaya to Gombak.

RapidKL operates 165 routes covering 980 housing estates in the Klang Valley daily.

As part of their expansion plan, Prasarana formed RapidPenang in 2007 to cater for the public bus services need in Penang. RapidKuantan joined the stable in December 2013. More are expected in other cities and towns nationwide as Prasarana takes the lead to improve the urban public transport system throughout the country.

**We arrived at 9.00 am and was briefed by Prasarana CEO. En. Ahmad Nizam Mohd. Amin.**



**Chairman gift to CEO**



**Train maintenance platform**



**Operation control room**