

## Putrajaya MRT Line's directional tactile tiles to assist OKU passengers

By DANIA NABILA - July 22, 2022 @ 8:46pm



All MRT stations' accessibility designs embrace OKU-friendly features and enhancements. - BERNAMA PIC

KUALA LUMPUR: The Putrajaya Mass Rapid Transit (MRT) Line's turnkey contractor, MMC Gamuda KVMRT Sdn Bhd, has set up features to aid persons with disabilities (PwD) or "Orang Kurang Upaya" (OKU) at stations.

These include initiating directional tactile tiles.

MMC Gamuda said in a statement today that it had collaborated with Mass Rapid Transit Corporation (MRTC) to go above and beyond in its effort for inclusivity of all segments of passengers.

It said it sought input from experts in important government departments and authorities regarding the idea for these disabled-friendly features.

It said it collaborated with the Land Public Transport Agency (APAD), Transport Ministry, Women, Family and Community Development Ministry, non-governmental organisations (NGOs) as well as the Malaysian Association for the Blind (MAB).

MMC Gamuda said responses were gathered in a study on Universal Design for MRT stations, in which the agreed-upon consensus for PwD facilities in particular stated that lifts or elevators were the safest route for such passengers; and this should be supplemented with the addition of tactile tiles along routes at the MRT stations.

The directional tactile tiles, it said, are only available on the ground level, and these will link bus laybys and station elevators, thus omitting the need for most PwD passengers to use escalators and stairs.

"Those with partial visual impairment can still utilise escalators and stairs as the warning tiles will also be placed at the top and bottom landings to signify an impending step or change in level," said the statement.

The use of tactile tiles is intended to lead the visually impaired along the most expedient path possible from the entry, via the broad ticket gate and the Customer Service Office, and finally to the platform level.

However, the directional tactile tiles are not provided in ancillary amenities such as toilets, which corresponds directly with the code MS1184 that emphasises the widespread application of tactile tiles to all amenities would compromise the effectiveness of the specific directional cue being provided, said MMC Gamuda.

"The Putrajaya MRT Line is meant to allow PwD commuters, who wish to use MRT services, to have the greatest visual cues possible.

"All MRT stations' accessibility designs embrace OKU-friendly features and enhancements," it said.

MMC Gamuda said the design of all Putrajaya MRT Line stations, including facilities for PwD, complies fully with the Malaysian Standard for Universal Design and Accessibility in the Built Environment – Code of Practice, MS1184:2014, published by the Department of Standards.