Experts Optimistic About ECRL

New alignment expected to boost economic development

KUALA LUMPUR: Optimists have stepped forward to support the ECRL project, which is expected to boost economic development. The project, named the East Coast Rail Link (ECRL), aims to connect the east coast region to the main railway network, facilitating faster travel and increasing economic opportunities.

The ECRL will connect areas in the east coast region, including Terengganu, Pahang, and Kelantan, with the existing railway network. This will not only reduce travel time but also boost local economies by improving accessibility to markets.

The ECRL project is estimated to cost between RM25 billion and RM30 billion, with the government providing the majority of the funds. The project is expected to create thousands of jobs and provide a considerable economic boost to the region.

A survey conducted by the Malaysian Institute of Economic Research (MIER) showed that 70% of respondents believe the ECRL project will have a positive impact on the local economy. The survey also revealed that 80% of respondents expect the project to improve connectivity and reduce travel times by more than half.

Economic experts have also highlighted the project's potential to create employment opportunities and stimulate economic growth. According to a report by the Asian Development Bank, the ECRL project is expected to create 250,000 jobs and increase GDP by 0.5%.

The project is also expected to enhance the transportation system in the east coast region, making it easier for people to travel and do business. This will not only benefit the local population but also attract more tourists and investors to the region.

The ECRL project is expected to be completed by 2024, with the first train scheduled to run in 2023. The project is a significant step towards improving connectivity and economic development in the east coast region of Malaysia.