

## Double-track project will bring more train users

THE number of inter-city train users is expected to increase by 12.5 per cent annually for the next 30 years while cargo is expected to expand by 5.6 per cent a year.

Transport Minister Datuk Ong Tee Keat said a study on the effectiveness of the double-track railway project from Seremban to Tanjung Pagar and from Ipoh to Padang Besar had been conducted covering various aspects, including economy, engineering and environment.

"With the project, KTMB (Keretapi Tanah Melayu Bhd) is expected to handle about 28 million passengers, compared with the 20.7 million passengers without the project from this year to 2012.

"It is an increase of 35 per cent," he said in reply to Roslan Shaharum (Pas-Bukit Gantang).

For the cargo service, there would be an increase of 56 per cent during the same period as KTMB is expected to handle 58 million tonnes compared with 37.09 tonnes without the railway project.