

# KERATAN AKHBAR

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## ECRL project cost trimmed by RM11b

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**KUALA LUMPUR:** The East Coast Rail Link (ECRL) project will proceed with its cost reduced by RM11.01 billion from the original RM85.97 billion approved in 2016, said Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim.

He said the project's total cost was reduced although there are applications for additional cost following a new realignment and the project is still subject to the old agreement.

"Even though there is additional cost to finance the project's realignment which we have approved, it has enabled the total cost to be reduced by RM11.01 billion," he said after chairing the Cabinet meeting yesterday.

Anwar added that the government decided to proceed with the project that was approved previously and did not make many changes as this would delay its implementation and cause difficulties.

"I congratulate the Transport Ministry, Finance Ministry and Works Ministry for helping to assist in expediting the negotiation process, and being able to reduce the total cost compared with that approved in 2016."

The project, spanning 665km and comprising 59 tunnels, includes construction works in four states, namely Kelantan, Terengganu, Pahang, and Selangor, and is designed to be unaffected by floods. - Bernama