Embarking on RM20mil upgrade



Entering new era: An aerial view of the Sultan Abdul Halim ferry terminal in Butterworth which will be upgraded soon. — CHAN BOON KAI and ZHAFARAN NASIB/The Star Work to improve Penang's ferry

terminals will start next month as a follow-up to the modernisation exercise that kicked off early this year with the replacement of the old ferries with fast boats for foot passengers and Ro-Ro ferries for motorcyclists. >2&3



Facelift for Penang ferry terminals

RM20mil upgrading works to kick off next month

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A NEW era of the Penang ferry ser-vice will start soon with a RM20mil ograding works of the Raja Tun

Penang Port Sdn Bhd (PPSB) contractors had been picked and works would be completed within

The Butterworth terminal will be completed first within eight nonths as it is more urgent. ave to walk up a flight of stairs.

'At present, the passenger-only rary pontoon adjacent to the existing Sultan Abdul Halim ferry

"We have consulted physically nallenged groups on the design of ne terminal to ensure that it is

be given to the upgrading of the waiting and ticketing areas at the

He said the month of June would also see the awarding of tenders buses and two ferries for

tional bids for the tender of vehicles and the letter of award given by the end of June.

that will be given the job to build he water buses and ferries for

"We are looking at the best kind of vehicle to ply between the island

ran will not be suitable and we are doing an engineering study on the brought in a marine engineering any to help us in the tender

Sasedharan said the phasing and

transition period of the vehicles "All the vehicles may not be

one might come first within seven months and the rest later

could mix and match with the existing fast boats and roll-on/roll-

"We would be spending roughly around RM80mil for both the ferry terminal upgrade and the procurement of the water vehicles."

operation on Dec 31, with only a ween the island and mainland

A Ro-Ro boat for motorcyclists gers operate from the Swettenham Pier Cruise Terminal in George

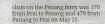
All four-wheelers presently use the Penang Bridge and Sultan Abdul Halim Mu'adzam Shah

people using the fast boats and nang ferry has reduced since the

gers from Prai to Penang on the fast boats and 478 people from

However there were only 166 from Prai to Penang and 168 from was a public holiday due to Wesak





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"The figures were vastly reduced to 149 from Prai to Penang and 159 from Penang to Prai on May 26. "This shows Penang people

are very disciplined and aware of the situation presently and are

his Facebook posting.

Tan said while the usage of the ferry and boats had reduced, the



A worker sweeping the wet floor on the floating deck for the fast boat service at Swettenham Pier.



distancing inside ZHAFARAN NASIB









Passengers passing through the turnstile gate after buying



A view of the waiting area for passengers to gueue for their turn to enter the fast boat after all arriving passengers have