

MALAYAN RAILWAY - TOWARDS IMPROVING THE
MARKETSHARE OF RICE TRAFFIC.

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ABSTRACT

The movement of rice handled by Malayan Railway include both local and imported rice. Imported rice which enter the country through Port Klang and Perang Port will then be distributed to the various LPN godowns in this country by rail and by lorries. Movement of local rice handled by railway are usually made by LPN and only small quantities are moved by private wholesalers in the north. Railway also handled rice for internal stock transfer made by LPN to the other godowns.

Among the three types of haul handled by MR, long haul movement of more than 100km are favourable to MR. While the intra state hauls are monopolised by the road hauliers.

MR's activities are only confined to the godowns which can be served by railway. LPN being the major user of MR's wagons in transporting rice, has godowns all over Peninsula Malaysia. Only 14 of these godowns are served by rail. The problems faced by LPN at the receiving godowns include shortage of labourers and insufficient facilities to unload the rice into the godowns. These problems cause further detention of wagons at the godowns.

INTRODUCTION

Malayan Railway's traffic consist of passenger and freight. The major commodities handled by Malayan Railway include cement, petroleum products, logs rubber and palm oil. Rice traffic is also one of the commodities handled by Malayan Railway and is ranked to be in the eighth place among the twenty one commodities handled by Malayan Railway.

In 1983, out of 3 186 981 tonnes of goods traffic handled by Malayan Railway, only 65 011 tonnes or 2.04% consist of rice traffic. The revenue received by Malayan Railway from this traffic was \$1 242 849 out of the total \$59 223 730 from freight revenue.

Last year, 38% of the rice handled by Malayan Railway originates from Perlis, 25.2% from Port Klang, 14.1% from Kota Star and 22.7% from various other places. Rice movement into this country enter through Port Klang and Penang Port. Interstate movements involved the road hauliers and the railway. Rice handled by Malayan Railway consist of both local and imported rice.