



A SPECIAL PUBLICATION BY THE HIGH COMMISSION OF MALAYSIA, SINGAPORE

OPPORTUNITY MALAYSIA 2015

KL-SG HSR LINK
WILL STRENGTHEN SOCIO-ECONOMIC TIES



**Malaysia - Singapore
Bilateral Ties Stress Cooperation**

Malaysia Chair of ASEAN in 2015

**Malaysia Wins IMTJ Award for
'Medical Travel Destination 2015'**

**East Coast, Sabah & Sarawak
Economic Corridors**

THE ENERGY TO SUCCEED



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A CHAT WITH H.E. Datuk Husni Zai Yaacob

IN CONVERSION WITH MRS NOMITA DHAR, THE HIGH COMMISSIONER OF MALAYSIA IN SINGAPORE EXPLAINS WHY RELATIONS BETWEEN MALAYSIA AND SINGAPORE ARE “SPECIAL AND SUBSTANTIVE” AND ARE POISED TO REACH A NEW HIGH WITH UPCOMING JOINT-PROJECTS



↑ H.E. Datuk Husni accompanying Malaysian Prime Minister Dato' Sri Mohd Najib Tun Abdul Razak (3rd from right) at the Economic Society of Singapore's Annual Dinner this year

MALAYSIA-SINGAPORE RELATIONS GO BACK A LONG WAY. CAN YOU DESCRIBE THE STATE OF CURRENT TIES AND THE MAIN AREAS OF INTEREST CURRENTLY SHARED BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES?

Relations between neighbours are always unique. In the case of Malaysia and Singapore, our relations are particularly fraught with complexities because of our shared history. Relations, nevertheless, have always been substantive and have grown stronger and more intertwined over the years. While there would continue to be issues, both sides have wisely decided to focus on the positive and resolve outstanding issues amicably.

As Malaysia and Singapore celebrate 50 years of diplomatic relations this year, bilateral relations are at an all-time high. Malaysia-Singapore relations have grown stronger over time; in trade, investment and tourism. The past few years have seen unprecedented growth in all

spheres; be it political, economic or social, cutting across all sections of society. Both sides have decided to be pragmatic, concentrating on a win-win and doable solutions.

Through this approach, we have seen great growth in our trade, investment and economy. There is also greater linkages and connectivity across the borders, not just between physical infrastructures but also between people to people.

YOU HAVE HAD AN ILLUSTRIOUS CAREER AND HAVE BROUGHT BIG ACCOLADES TO THE NATIONS YOU HAVE BEEN POSTED TO. CAN YOU SHARE SOME IMPORTANT MILESTONES OF YOUR CAREER?

In the last 33 years as a diplomat, I have the honour and privilege to serve my country in many different capacities both at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Malaysia and abroad. There have been some major highlights and milestones in my career as follows:

- i. As Ambassador of Malaysia to Kuwait, I arrived Kuwait after the second day of the war in Iraq in 2003 and the main task was to organise an evacuation of Malaysians in Kuwait. Amid tension and uncertainty in Kuwait, we managed to evacuate several Malaysians from Kuwait. Despite the challenges, the Embassy continued to operate to serve the other Malaysians who chose to remain in Kuwait.
- ii. While I was the Ambassador of Malaysia to Bangkok in 2008 - 2010, I had to provide the leadership in managing several crises in Bangkok. During the period, Thailand experienced major and violent protests. Despite Thailand's political instability during that period, relations between Malaysia and Thailand remained strong and friendly.
- iii. One of the most important milestones in my career was my appointment as Deputy Secretary General (DSG) I of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Malaysia. As the DSG I, I was the overall in-charge of the bilateral relations between Malaysia and all the countries that we have diplomatic relations with (about 190 countries). It was a challenging task yet enriching and exciting as it served to promote Malaysia's interests abroad.
- iv. The final milestone in my career is becoming the High Commissioner of Malaysia to Singapore. It is a unique and special experience as this will be my final posting before my retirement. Relations between Malaysia and Singapore are special and substantive. Special in many ways - political, social, cultural as well as people to people relations. Substantive in economic relations - trade, investment and tourism. I am happy that relations are at all time high and poised to enter a new high

with the implementation of iconic and "game changer" projects such as High Speed Rail and Rapid Transit System between the two countries.

DURING YOUR TENURE HERE, WHICH AREAS HAVE YOU IDENTIFIED FOR PEOPLE OF BOTH COUNTRIES TO THRIVE AND PROSPER TOGETHER.

Malaysia and Singapore cooperate on wide-ranging areas, from politics to economy, social, culture and other non-traditional areas. One of the special features of our bilateral relations is the strong people to people ties. This cooperation is not confined at bilateral level but also at regional and international levels. Going forward there are many areas that we can cooperate. Connectivity, economic synergy and non-traditional areas of cooperation such as security and defence could be explored further for a win-win situation.

THIS IS THE FIRST TIME A MALAYSIAN ASSOCIATION HAS BEEN SET UP HERE. CAN YOU SHARE WITH US THE PROGRESS AND WHAT IS THERE TO EXPECT? HOW DO THE HIGH COMMISSION AND THE ASSOCIATION WORK HAND IN HAND?

One of my greatest satisfactions here

is to see the establishment of the Malaysian Association in Singapore or MASIS in October 2014. It has not been an easy journey. Thanks to the commitment and perseverance of a group of dedicated Malaysians, the long-overdue Association was set up.

We, at the High Commission, have worked closely with MASIS, from its very inception until today. We have shared our expertise and resources to set up the Association and ensure its continuation. We will continue to offer assistance as and when necessary. As a nascent association, not even a year old, there is still a long way for MASIS to go to achieve its objectives. But it has had a good start, and I am certain it will get bigger and better over the years.

THE KL-SG HIGH SPEED RAIL WAS ANNOUNCED EARLIER THIS YEAR TO CONNECT KL-JOHOR WITH SINGAPORE. HOW DO YOU THINK THIS PROJECT IS LIKELY TO IMPACT THE WAY OF LIFE OF SINGAPOREANS AND MALAYSIANS AND WHEN WILL IT BE ACTUALISED.

There has been steady progress on the HSR project. Both countries have identified their terminus; Bandar Malaysia in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia and

Jurong East in Singapore. Agreements have been reached on the Customs, Immigration and Quarantine (CIQ) configuration, the frequency bands to be reserved for HSR operations, as well as locating the depot and stabling facilities in Malaysia.

The HSR has been called a game-changer as it will boost connectivity, facilitate travel, enhance business linkages, and improve people-to-people ties between the two countries, especially between KL and Singapore. Because of the short travelling time, it opens the possibility for people to work, live, play, connect and move easily between and within the two countries. A person can now work in Singapore and live and play in KL or live in Singapore and be able to conclude his business in Malaysia within a day. Opportunities abound for those who put premium on time.

It is difficult to pinpoint the exact date of completion as it involves complex configuration and issues involving the two sides. At the recent Annual Leaders Retreat in May, both Prime Ministers noted that the initial target of 2020 may need to be re-assessed given the scale and complexity of the project. Both sides hope that that bilateral issues pertaining to the HSR will be settled by the end of the year. Once the



↑ Always touching base with the diplomatic community - the High Commissioner with Mr Chee Wee Kiong (right) Permanent Secretary Singapore Ministry of Foreign Affairs before a lunch hosted by Datuk Husni for ASEAN ambassadors in Singapore

issues have been settled, an updated timeline could be ascertained.

IN THE ECONOMIC FIELDS, WHAT STEPS CAN BE TAKEN TO INCREASE SINGAPOREANS INVESTMENT AND PARTICIPATION IN PROJECTS IN MALAYSIA SUCH AS THE ISKANDAR DEVELOPMENT IN JOHOR, AND OTHER PROJECTS IF ANY, FURTHER NORTH?

Singapore was Malaysia's second largest foreign investor in 2014, after Japan. Singapore, however, ranked first in terms of number of projects and employment created. A total of 126 projects involving Singapore equity participation were approved, with total investments of US\$1.38 billion contributing to 16,198 jobs in 2014.

Singapore continued to be the leading investor in Iskandar Malaysia with investments totalling US\$3.68 billion from 2006 to 2013, 16% of total foreign investment across 300 manufacturing projects and other developments

I would like to urge Singapore companies and investors to look further into Malaysia. While Malaysia might be a familiar market to many, there are many areas that are still untapped such as the East Coast of Malaysia and East Malaysia. Venture

beyond the usual, do not restrict yourself unnecessarily. There are various agencies, government and private, that could help you to identify new areas of cooperation. Even cooperation in familiar areas could be further expanded or deepen.

Malaysia has become more competitive. The IMD 2014 World Talent Report has put Malaysia as the fifth most talent-competitive countries in the world, while the World Bank's Doing Business Report 2014 has ranked Malaysia as the sixth easiest place to do business in the world. Malaysia abounds with potential, resources and talent that are ready to be tapped and utilised. Expand your horizon to Malaysia and you shall be rewarded.

THE WORLD ECONOMY IS NOW SHOWING SIGNS OF SLOWING. WHAT IS THE CURRENT STATE OF THE MALAYSIAN ECONOMY WITH THE WEAKENING MALAYSIAN RINGGIT? IS THIS AN OPPORTUNITY TO DIVERSIFY AND REVITALISE THE MALAYSIAN ECONOMY?

Despite the great challenges faced by Malaysia, the country has strong economic fundamentals. The Malaysian economy expanded by 6% in 2014 and expected to grow by 5% this year. In the first half of 2015, the economy grew at 5.6%.

Malaysia's commitment to economic transformation has also garnered international recognition. According to the latest World Bank Ease of Doing Business Report 2014, Malaysia surged to 6th position from 12th position among 189 economies. The Institute for Management Development's (IMD) World Competitiveness Yearbook 2014 has ranked Malaysia from 15th position to 12th position among 60 countries, ahead of some of the well developed countries. The jump is a testimony of the international community's growing confidence in Malaysia's ability to transform itself into that of a high-income nation by 2020.

PM Najib in his National Day Speech on 31 August 2015 has said that depreciation of currency is a global phenomenon, not affecting Malaysia alone. To this end, he has established a special committee comprising 10 leading economists and corporate leaders who would consider plans and actions to tackle the current economic problems and work on them immediately until the crisis abated.

Malaysia is always looking at opportunities to diversify its economy. We have continuously adapted and diversified our economy over the years. From agriculture-based economy we have moved to manufacturing and now into a more service oriented economy. Currently, we are looking at high-tech specialisation, finance and service based industries, as well as bio-tech and pharmaceuticals to utilise our natural resources. Malaysia has been recognised as a leader in Islamic finance and halal related products.

THE RECENTLY ENDED SEA GAMES SAW MALAYSIAN ATHLETES EXHIBIT EXCELLENT SPORTSMANSHIP AND PERFORMANCE IN THE FIELD. PLEASE KINDLY SHARE YOUR IMPRESSION OF THE TEAM'S PERFORMANCES AND HOPES AND EXPECTATIONS FOR THE NATION IN THE COMING YEARS.

Malaysia came fourth in the last SEA Games. I am certain many of our athletes have done their best, but there is always room for improvement.

I am particularly proud of the sportsmanship and fair play they have exhibited. While winning is important,



↑ Datuk Husni hosting ASEAN ambassadors lunch at Agrobazaar with HE Andri Hady Indonesia Ambassador to Singapore (far right) and Mr Peter Tan Deputy Secretary, Southeast Asia & ASEAN of Singapore Ministry of Foreign Affairs



↑ ASEAN Day celebrations were held at the Indonesian Embassy in Singapore on 8 August 2015

it is equally important to maintain the spirit of the games. I got to interact with our athletes and was heartened to see their team spirit. With determination, I am certain we could do better in the years ahead. Malaysia is looking forward to hosting the next SEA Games in 2017.

WITH MALAYSIA BEING THE CHAIR OF ASEAN, THE COUNTRY WILL BE LEADING THE BLOC DURING A PIVOTAL YEAR. PLEASE SHARE WITH OUR READERS ON HOW MALAYSIA IS GEARING TO ACCOMPLISH THE AGENDA FOR ITS CHAIRMANSHIP.

Our vision for ASEAN is clearly reflected in our theme "Our People, Our Community, Our Vision." Malaysia has outlined eight priorities:

- The official formation of a strong ASEAN community
- Building a post-2015 vision with related guidelines and documents;
- Steering ASEAN closer to the people
- Developing SMEs
- Expanding intra-ASEAN trade and investment
- Strengthening ASEAN institutions
- Promoting regional peace and security

- Enhancing the association's role as a global player

Malaysia puts importance on working together with other ASEAN Member States in maintaining ASEAN centrality in confronting challenges facing the region. ASEAN must remain in the driver-seat and not be diluted into becoming a mere spectator.

Malaysia wants to create an ASEAN Community that is more politically cohesive and more integrated economically and also much stronger, more robust in terms of social development and culture. We are also working on ensuring the security and stability of the region.

At the recent 26th ASEAN Summit in April, three declarations were adopted at the Summit:

- The Kuala Lumpur Declaration on a People-Oriented, People-Centred ASEAN
- The Langkawi Declaration on the Global Movement of Moderates
- The Declaration on Institutionalising the Resilience of ASEAN and its Communities and Peoples to Disasters and Climate Change.

The declarations intend to strengthen ASEAN unity and solidarity, move towards a sustainable region in line with the United Nations Post-2015

Agenda objectives and aspirations, as well as to underscore the importance of building an ASEAN community that is resilient to disaster and climate change.

Malaysia looks forward to hosting the 27th ASEAN Summit and the Related Summits in November 2015.

PLEASE SHARE WITH US SOME KEY POINTS OF YOUR INDEPENDENCE MESSAGE.

Malaysia and Singapore celebrate 50 years of diplomatic relations this year. Relations have grown stronger and more substantive over the years. Relations are at an all-time high.

Malaysia congratulates Singapore on 50 years of independence. Malaysia is a firm believer in the adage "prosper thy neighbour." A successful Singapore brings prosperity to its neighbours and the region.

Malaysia-Singapore economic fortune is tightly intertwined. We depend on the progress of each other to further our own growth. Malaysia has been one of Singapore's main economic partners for the past five decades. Very few countries' economies are more intertwined and dependent on each other.

While Malaysia faces several challenges, the country's economic fundamentals are still strong.



MALAYSIA-SINGAPORE BILATERAL TIES STRESS COOPERATION

A CONCERTED EFFORT HAS BEEN MADE BY THE TWO NATIONS TO STAND FAST BY EACH OTHER THROUGH THE MEDIUM OF MUTUALLY BENEFICENT ALLIANCES, INTERACTIONS AND INFORMATION-SHARING

Dato' Sri Mohd Najib Tun Abdul Razak,
Prime Minister of Malaysia



With many shared goals to achieve, Malaysia and Singapore have worked apace to create ample opportunities to strengthen the bonds between them. Bilateral economic cooperation, synergistic investment linkages, cooperation in manufacturing and industrial activities, seamless cooperation on environment issues, security measures, cultural exchanges and people-to-people interactions — these are the many platforms which provide the impetus to holistic socio-economic development and mutual regard.

MALAYSIA-SINGAPORE LEADERS' RETREAT

The ties that bind Malaysia and Singapore have been firmed up even more vigorously this year as evidenced

by the warmth that marked the meetings between the two leaders—Singapore's Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong and Malaysian Prime Minister Dato' Sri Mohd Najib Tun Abdul Razak, at the annual retreat, held in Singapore on 5 May 2015. A pleasant private dinner hosted by PM Lee and Mrs Lee for PM Najib and his wife Datin Sri Rosmah Mansor on 4 May 2015 was followed the next morning by the 6th Malaysia-Singapore Leaders' Retreat for bilateral discussions. The annual Leaders' Retreat has proven to be an excellent platform for the two countries to hammer out issues that are of key importance in their agenda. The next Retreat is slated to be held in 2016 in Malaysia.

At the outset, PM Lee graciously accepted the Malaysian PM's condolences on the sad demise of



the late PM Lee Kuan Yew earlier this year. PM Lee also extended his congratulations to PM Najib for the high success of the 26th ASEAN summit in April 2015. He assured the Malaysian leader of Singapore's continued support of Malaysia during its tenure of Chairmanship of ASEAN.

Within the framework of the retreat, a slew of important issues were addressed by the Malaysian and Singaporean prime ministers, both of whom were accompanied by a delegation of high-profile ministers and senior officials from various agencies and ministries including Malaysia Cabinet Ministers such as Foreign Minister Dato Sri' Anifah Aman. The Singapore delegation included the Deputy Prime Minister, Coordinating Minister for National Security and Minister for Home Affairs Teo Chee Hean and several cabinet ministers.

High on its agenda was the ramped-up progress of the high-speed rail (HSR) connectivity project between Kuala Lumpur and Singapore. In addition to this, other issues at stake were those associated with the Causeway and the Johor River Barrage.

The HSR Link will be pivotal for better connectivity, address business and trade links and enhance connects between the people of both countries. PM Lee also announced that the Singapore HSR terminus will be sited at Jurong East—which falls perfectly in sync with Singapore's broader agenda to transform the area into its second

Central Business District. Both leaders were quick to point out that HSR, being the first of its kind in the region has garnered a great deal of attention, both domestically and globally.

Both leaders lauded the work done by the Immigration Work Group of the Joint Ministerial Committee for Iskandar Malaysia (JMC) in reducing congestion at the causeway and the Malaysia-Singapore Second Link. Singapore aims to complete the projected automation of all motorcycle counters at the Woodlands and Tuas checkpoints by end of the coming year. This will result in motorcycle immigration clearance speeding up by up to 30 per cent and bring down congestion at all checkpoints. Malaysia is also looking to introduce automated motorcycle counters; it is already contemplating the introduction of radio frequency identification (RFID) stickers in passports for Malaysian motorcyclists to make self-clearance speedier at the causeway. This will dovetail with its automated clearance for its Malaysian Citizens Motorcyclists scheme.

Security breaches continue to be a major concern for both countries. Singapore is working on a BioScreen project to capture and tag biometric identifiers of visitors. Additionally it will help escalate the process of quicker immigration clearance at its checkpoints. Leaders of both countries reiterated their commitment to the bilaterals on security and the close cooperation between their militaries

in a bid to address common defence issues within the ambit of their jurisdictions. The MoU on Cooperation in Developing Urban Search Force (USAR) and Malaysian National Security Council (NSC) is aimed at furthering and strengthening cooperation between these two agencies.

Also broached at the joint press conference was the subject of the "Friendship Bridge" — a proposed third link between Singapore and Johor, in addition to the Causeway and Tuas Second Link. PM Lee indicated that this was being studied by the Republic as a long term project, as the priority presently was its existing link, which had to reach its limits and capacities.

The issue of water for both nations is of critical importance and PM Lee showed his pleasure in the excellent rapport between Singapore's national water agency, PUB, and Johor's water regulating body BAKAJ—which is also backed by the Malaysian Premier's support of the Johor River Barrage project. This cooperation is of great significance as saltwater intrusions, a recurring problem during the dry seasons, will be contained by the barrage. Johor and Singapore will both be in a position to source their needs to capacity from the Johor River as provided for under the 1962 Water Agreement. PM Lee conceded that the project had been delayed due to the wet season, but he was joined by the Malaysian leadership in reaffirming the need for its timely completion.



Iskandar Danga Bay, the golden waterfront to Singapore



↑ **ASEAN Summit 2015: Malaysian Prime Minister Dato' Sri Mohd Najib Tun Abdul Razak in a meeting with Singapore Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong in Kuala Lumpur, April this year**

MALAYSIA-SINGAPORE TIES ON TRACK WITH CRITICAL MOUS

On the side-lines of the bilateral retreat, two important MoUs were signed—one on disaster management cooperation and the other on improved ferry services. While the first will ramp up cooperation between the two countries on an increasingly serious issue, the second is aimed at driving the increase in number of ferry services from Changi Ferry Terminal to Tanjung Belungkor in South Eastern Johor.

Singapore's Civil Defence Force and the Malaysian National Security Council signed the MoU on disaster management. Witnesses to the signing were Second Minister for Home Affairs and Foreign Affairs Masagos Zulkifli and Malaysian Foreign Affairs Minister Anifah Aman.

The second MoU on ferries was signed between Singapore's Maritime and Port Authority and Malaysia's Johor Port Authority. Officials from the transport ministries of both countries were witness to the signing of the MoU, which is in effect a follow-up on the first agreement inked in 1993, which allowed for the setting up of a regular ferry service between Changi Ferry Terminal and Tanjung Belungkor in South Eastern Johor, close to Desaru, the highly popular tourist hub.

CO-OPERATION IS THE KEY

The importance of cementing even more strongly their bilateral economic cooperation was further enhanced by both leaders who also touched upon the many opportunities and challenges in business and industrial cooperation.

The excellent progress made by the Industrial Cooperation Work Group (ICWG) under the JMC was noted, while the leaders also appreciated the benefits to Iskandar Malaysia from cooperation in manufacturing and other industrial activities.

Both leaders were in accord with the issue of skilled labour as an imperative for driving socio-economic development. Discussions pointed to the possibility of partnerships to promote Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET). Also remarked upon was the excellent collaboration on 13 November 2014, between the Ministry of Youth and Sports, Malaysia and ITE Education Services Pte Ltd, Singapore (ITEES), which also sought to develop a core group of trained TVET leaders and trainers for the Ministry of Youth and Sports, Malaysia and to enhance the TVET capability of the Youth Skills Institutes under the ministry.

Another point of concern that was addressed by leaders of both nations was the matter of environmental issues with trans-boundary implications. Both leaders were happy about the close and continuous inter-agency cooperation on these issues and reiterated their commitment to cooperate as close partners and as fellow ASEAN member nations.

Cultural ties offer an excellent platform for people-to-people interaction between the two countries. Cooperation on furthering cultural interactions between the two nations was deliberated during the discussions between both leaders on the possibility of a loan of artworks through the National Gallery Singapore and the National Visual Arts Gallery of Malaysia. The Titian Budaya Malaysia-Singapore Cultural Showcase to be held this year in Kuala Lumpur will be a celebration of the 50 years of diplomatic relations between the two countries.

Singapore Rushes Humanitarian Aid to Malaysia's Flash Floods Victims

It was a grim and painful day for Malaysia as it faced the horrific aftermath of the flash floods on 29 December 2014 that wreaked immeasurable havoc and loss of life. Responding to this terrible human tragedy PM Lee called on the PM Dato' Sri Mohd Najib Tun Abdul Razak to convey Singapore's distress for the flood victims. Singapore contributed S\$100,000 Malaysia's flood relief kitty.

The Singapore government also put in place water purification units to produce clean drinking water for the flood victims. Ministers K. Shanmugam, Lui Tuck Yew and Ng Eng Hen were also in touch with their Malaysian counterparts to condole the tragedy and offer their help.

VISITS OF THE MINISTERS

MALAYSIAN LAW MINISTER NANCY SHUKRI'S VISIT TO SINGAPORE

Nancy Shukri, Malaysian Minister of Law, visited Singapore from 30 November to 4 December, 2014 in her capacity as the 47th Lee Kuan Yew Exchange Fellow. The visit was used as an opportunity to interact with senior ministers on matters of mutual interest. During her visit, she had meetings with K. Shanmugam, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Law and Indranee Rajah, who is Senior Minister of State for Education and Law. Additionally the minister spent time in discussions with Minister for Culture, Community and Youth Lawrence Wong and Attorney General V.K. Rajah. A welcome dinner was hosted on 1 December 2014 for Minister Shukri by Mr Eddie Teo, Chairman of the Lee Kuan Yew Exchange Fellowship (LKYEF).

Minister Nancy Shukri was also briefed by several ministries and agencies, including the Ministry of Law, Ministry of Home Affairs and Land Transport Authority. She also paid visit to the Parliament, Singapore



Masagos Zulkifli, Second Minister for Foreign Affairs and Home Affairs, Singapore

International Arbitration Centre, Singapore International Mediation Centre, Pro Bono Services Office, and the State and Syariah Courts.

The LKYEF programme (e.1991) invites outstanding individuals for high-level exchange visits to Singapore. Minister Nancy Shukri as a Fellow has a proven track record for contributing to the development of Malaysia as well as promoting international understanding and goodwill.

SENIOR MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND HOME AFFAIRS MASAGOS ZULKIFLI ON WORKING VISIT TO SABAH

A working trip was made by Second Minister of State for Foreign Affairs and Home Affairs Masagos Zulkifli, who was then Senior Minister, to Kota Kinabalu, Sabah, Malaysia. The tour, which took place between 16 to 18 November 2014, started with a meeting with the Yang di-Pertua Negeri Sabah, Tun Datuk Seri Panglima Haji Juhar bin Haji Mahiruddin, who reiterated the warm rapport between Sabah and Singapore. Meetings were also conducted with Federal Minister of Energy, Green Technology and Water, Datuk Seri Panglima Dr Maximus Ongkili, Sabah Deputy Chief Minister and Minister of Industrial Development Datuk Raymond Tan Shu Kiah, and Sabah Minister of Tourism, Culture and Environment Datuk Seri Panglima Haji Masidi bin Manjun. The string of meetings was an excellent platform for SMS Masagos to explore areas of mutual cooperation. The Sabah Economic Development and Investment Authority also shared Sabah's development plans with the minister. SMS Masagos meeting with Sabah's leading businessmen was highly charged with a lively exchange of ideas on improving business cooperation and economic ties between Sabah and Singapore.



Nancy Shukri, Malaysian Minister of Law



Asean 2015

MALAYSIA CHAIR OF ASEAN IN 2015:

AN AGENDA OF PEOPLE-CENTRIC COMMITMENT

MALAYSIA IS ADDRESSING ITS GREAT RESPONSIBILITY, IN ITS ROLE AS THE ASEAN CHAIR 2015, WITH MEASURED ATTENTION. NOT ONLY IS 2015 CRITICAL FOR ASEAN'S AGENDA TO BECOME THE NEXT BIG REGIONAL GIANT—BUT ALSO FOR IT TO SUCCESSFULLY NAVIGATE THE LAST LEG OF ITS JOURNEY TOWARDS THE ESTABLISHMENT OF ASEAN COMMUNITY 2015.



About 200 specially invited delegates converged at Kuala Lumpur to attend the three-day colloquium, from 8 – 10 April 2014, on “Malaysia’s Chairmanship of ASEAN 2015: Towards a People-Centred ASEAN”. Organised by Malaysia’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the event was presided over by Malaysian Prime Minister Dato’ Sri Mohd Najib Tun Abdul Razak who in his Keynote Address endorsed the fact that ‘ASEAN is both the cornerstone of Malaysia’s foreign policy and the linchpin of the country’s strategic interests.’

The ASEAN region today is potentially one of the world’s most dynamic political and socio-economic arenas. In its endeavour to achieve its goal as a modern regional block, similar to the European Union it will need to overcome hurdles and challenges from many quarters.

The year 2015 is going to be a very interesting phase for ASEAN, according to Deputy Foreign Minister Datuk Hamzah Zainuddin. “This year marks the end of the period for implementation of the action plans contained in the three blueprints on political security, economy and socio-culture.”

The Malaysian chairmanship of ASEAN in 2015 is geared up to face many challenges in the goals earmarked in agenda for this period, but the Deputy Foreign Minister was confident that Malaysia would ‘sail through the year and contribute significantly towards the future direction of ASEAN and its bid to become the next regional giant’.

MALAYSIA’S AGENDA

Issues that Malaysia, as the new ASEAN Chair, will need to address are ways to make the necessary assessment on what all ASEAN has achieved under the blueprints it has formulated. Furthermore, Malaysia’s undertaking to create a fresh charter for the post-2015 vision for ASEAN will be a huge challenge. to be a huge undertaking to create the fresh charter for the post-2015 vision for ASEAN.

Malaysia, as the new Chair, is also expected to summon up fresh and innovative ways to organise a memorable commemoration of the setting up of the ASEAN community, which is slated to take place on 31 December 2015. over 600 million people in the region will be looking to Malaysia to help translate their hopes and aspirations into a viable reality.



Malaysian Foreign Minister Dato’ Sri Anifah Aman reiterated Malaysia’s sense of deep responsibility not just for the region but also the global community at large. He did not see the role as one of a spectator, but as one for someone, who with the commitment of the region at large, would work actively, ‘with other ASEAN Member States in maintaining ASEAN centrality in confronting the challenges facing the region, especially during this important year’.

THEME OF MALAYSIAN CHAIR

The reaffirmation of working together with other ASEAN community members underpins Malaysia’s Chairmanship theme of “Our People, Our Community, Our Vision.”

ASEAN Secretary-General, H.E Le Luong Minh, on paying a courtesy call on Dato’ Sri Anifah at Wisma Putra, was completely in accord with Malaysia’s theme-based agenda for involving the larger public in ASEAN’s integration for the benefit of the entire region through people-centric measures.

The ASEAN Foreign Ministers’ Retreat, held at the Sutera Harbour Resort in Kota Kinabalu on 27-28 January, was the curtain raiser for the series of ministerial and related meetings under Malaysia’s ASEAN chairmanship in 2015. Director-general of the ASEAN-Malaysia National Secretariat at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Datuk Muhammad Shahrul Ikram Yaakob said that at the forefront of its Chairmanship is economic integration centering on

the future of the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC), one of three pillars of the AC which aims to create a single market and production base.

However, the country will also conduct negotiations for a Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP), which will be the world’s largest free trade agreement grouping comprising ASEAN, Japan, South Korea, China, India, Australia and New Zealand, upon its completion by the end of 2015. RCEP’s successful conclusion and the launch of China’s Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB), will be high priority for the peninsula.

Malaysia is also working on deliverables such as the Declaration on Combating Transnational Crime, Asean Agreement on Transfers of Prisoners and the establishment of an Asean Peacekeeping Battalion. “Malaysia is also working on other deliverables including the Asean Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) Master Plan, Asean Declaration on Elderly Persons and Asean First Ladies’ Forum,” he said.

At the welcoming dinner for the ASEAN Foreign Ministers’ Retreat 2015, Foreign Minister Dato’ Sri Anifah Aman said, “Malaysia is deeply honoured to take the helm of ASEAN this year. We are mindful of the challenges ahead of us in the coming months, which will see key ASEAN aspirations come to fruition. Never one to rest on our laurels, ASEAN will set our sights on yet bigger aspirations for the years to come.”

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Economic Partnership (RCEP), which will be the world’s largest free trade agreement grouping comprising ASEAN, Japan, South Korea, China, India, Australia and New Zealand, upon its completion by the end of 2015. RCEP’s successful conclusion and the launch of China’s Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB), will be high priority for the peninsula.

“ASEAN is both the cornerstone of Malaysia’s foreign policy and the linchpin of the country’s strategic interests.”
- Malaysian PM Dato’ Sri Mohd Najib Tun Abdul Razak

By introducing reforms for better business practices in the framework of its economic agenda and savvy new technologies to stay in step with the new order of things in the global market, Malaysia's steady growth has placed it in the ranks of the world's 20 top economies. Initiated under the umbrella of the ninth Malaysia Plan are five economic corridors which are aimed at bridging the gap of development imbalances countrywide. These have steadily proven to be the driving force behind much that's happening in the Malaysian economy. One of the most effective tools in this growth has been Public-Private Partnerships (PPP), which continues to show its efficacy in economies the world over.



Investment Announcement In ECER MOU Ceremony of the East Coast Economic Region

EAST COAST ECONOMIC REGION

Corridor to Burgeoning Prosperity for All

AS GLOBAL ECONOMIC REALITIES CONTINUE TO IMPINGE ON DOMESTIC ECONOMIC AGENDAS, MALAYSIA'S POLICYMAKERS HAVE CHALKED OUT AVENUES OF INVESTMENT BACKED BY AN ARRAY OF ATTRACTIVE INCENTIVES FOR INVESTORS FROM BOTH HOME AND ABROAD

Spread over 66,000 sq km, the Malaysia's East Coast Economic Region (ECER) comprises over half the area of Peninsular Malaysia. It incorporates states of Kelantan, Terengganu and Pahang, along with the district of Mersing in Johor and is home to a populace of 3.9 million, which is about 14.5 per cent of Malaysia's total population.

The agenda for this volatile economic base is clear cut. Over the next 12 years, it is to be developed according to the ECER Master Plan, as an attractive international and domestic hub for tourism, an exporter of resource-based and manufactured products, a powerful trading centre as well as a judiciously developed infrastructure and logistics base.

The ECER represents 14 percent of the country's population offering thus a large resource for labour; by 2020 it is estimated that this figure will grow even higher— over 4.9 million people, of which 1.92 million alone will comprise its workforce.

The cost of living in the ECER is relatively lower than in the rest of Peninsular Malaysia. Its ripple-like effect is expected to be felt in the slew of new business ventures that are set to mushroom in the ECER, which will then be in a position to provide products and services for less, but without compromising on quality.

Real estate development and large scale commercial farming have a big future in the ECER as it covers 51% of

the land area of Peninsular Malaysia. In addition to this the region has a fantastic topographical diversity. With pristine forests, attractive coastlines, coral islands, lakes, highlands, and rich culture and history the potential of developing the ECER's tourism offerings are immeasurable. Many of these offer great possibilities of development along the lines of a sustainable tourism economy. The ECER, has for long been associated with its activities in agriculture; this in itself offers an excellent base for the development of farming and fisheries with the help of local expertise, to create more value-added and optimum-yield businesses.

The excellent infrastructure, for a solid logistics base and transport hub,



is pretty much in place for industry to capitalise on in the ECER. There already exists a superb mix of sea ports, airports, railway and an expansive network of highways linking it to other parts of Peninsular Malaysia and the country's neighbours. All this provides the ECER a slew of advantages to expand its economic activities.

The East Coast Economic Region Development Council (ECERDC) is a statutory body established under an Act of Parliament, the East Coast Economic Region Development Council Act 2008 (Act 688) to drive the implementation projects and key programmes identified in the ECER Master Plan.

SABAH DEVELOPMENT ECONOMIC CORRIDOR

Opportunities Unlimited

Tawau Town - Sabah



A STUNNING ARRAY OF CULTURAL DIVERSITY, A BOTTOMLESS WELL OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND A FABULOUS NATURAL SETTING MAKE SABAH AN IDEAL INVESTMENT DESTINATION



Pulau Sapi - Sabah

Malaysia continues to navigate the competitive global arena to market the high potential of opportunity and investments in the country's many projects and lucrative green field areas; these area lucidly highlighted in the agendas of its five economic corridors, initiated under the Ninth Malaysia Plan aimed at doing away with the development imbalances throughout the country. Using the highly effective tool of Public-Private Partnerships (PPP), the Malaysian government offers attractive incentives for investors in many fields, including those of high technology manufacturing, agriculture, human resources and tourism.

Six designated Strategic Development Areas (SDA), part of the Sabah Development Economic Corridor (SDEC) will work in tandem with the growth of the pivotal hub — the Greater Kota Kinabalu, created by the Greater Kota Kinabalu Initiative. The SDAs which offer a specific fiscal incentive package

for investors include— the Bio-Triangle, Agro Marine Belt, Interior Food Valley, Kinabalu Gold Coast Enclave, and Brunei Bay Integrated Development Area and the Oil and Gas Clusters.

STRATEGIC GROWTH GATEWAY

Rooted in the national agenda, under the Economic Transformation Programme (ETP) and the National Key Economic Areas (NKEAs), to transform Malaysia into a high-income nation by the year 2020, the primary focus areas of the SDC are agriculture, tourism, logistics and manufacturing; oil, gas and energy; higher education, and palm oil. The initiative has already identified several Entry Point Projects (EPPs) with a target investment of RM77.5 billion by the year 2020.

Sabah is famed for its rich and varied cultural heritage and its dazzling range of natural resources, both of which offer rich pickings for the SDEC agenda for the service industry and resource-based business projects. Investors have plenty of opportunities to generate

mutually rewarding businesses, given the attractive incentive packages on offer.

Sabah's location and good connectivity itself offer investors a strategic gateway to access the rapidly growing BIMP-EAGA region as well as the potentially opportunity-rich capital cities and markets of North East Asia.

Sabah's deep reserves of oil and gas are a perfect allurements for investors seeking to invest in the petrochemicals and gas industry. This sector has been a hub of high activity in recent times with the launch of several projects including the Sabah Oil and Gas Terminal (SOGT), Sabah-Sarawak Gas Pipeline (SSGP), Kimanis Power Plant (KPP) projects, a 30MW Geo-thermal power plant in Tawau, and the Sabah Ammonia and Urea project (SAMUR) in Sipitang.

Sabah's amazingly fertile landmass has given rise to the high-grade development of its agricultural activities, while its marine resources and forests offer a slew of opportunities for resource-based manufacturing activities, such as the timber and wood-based industry, food and agro-centric and biotechnology industries. Sabah is also the source of about 30 per cent of Malaysia's oil palm production.

ECO FRIENDLY INVESTMENTS

Another highly important focus area are the immense green field opportunities in human capital development served up by SDC offers, particularly relevant for the environmental, natural resources and biotech-related industries. The region's air connectivity to many capital cities in Asia also make it the perfect hub as an education and research centre in environmental and conservation studies. An exceptional illustration of its viability for such a pivotal role is the Danum Valley Field Research Centre which has been a magnet for scientists specialising in rain forests, from around the globe.

Sabah's astonishing biodiversity offers rich dividends for potential investors. With the allurements of over 2,000 species of flora, Southeast Asia's highest peak—Mount Kinabalu, pristine national parks and conservation areas, along with easy access to the world renowned Coral Triangle with Sipadan Island, Sabah's natural heritage is ripe for eco-friendly investment. To add to its charm, while Mount Kinabalu is listed as an UNESCO World Heritage Natural Site, Sabah's rich biodiversity resources have been surprisingly untouched and are beautifully preserved.



SARAWAK CORRIDOR OF Renewal Energy

NOT ONLY DOES SARAWAK HAVE A LARGELY UNTAPPED WEALTH OF ENERGY RESOURCES, IT ALSO HAS IN PLACE A FIVE-PRONGED STRATEGY TO DRIVE THE ENGINE OF ITS OVERALL DEVELOPMENT

The Malaysian government's expenditure in the development and growth of the country's economy has been considerably bumped up for the year 2015. The indicated allocation for development is RM48.5bn for 2015 (excluding RM2bn for contingencies), which is about 14.9 per cent higher than the estimated RM42.2bn for 2014. An important strategy for its development and growth plans has been the setting up of economic corridors for investment which are aimed at incorporating the entire country through defined regional planning. Malaysia's Sarawak region has been charged to use its resources to the optimum if it is to reach its target as a dynamic, market-driven economy by 2030. Not only does Sarawak have a massive wealth of energy resources, it has in place a five-pronged strategy to drive the engine of its overall development and growth.

The Sarawak Corridor of Renewal Energy is also referred to as SCORE. The impetus of SCORE's activity will zero in on the development of the central region until the year 2020. Its agenda is to accelerate growth on both the economic front as well as the development of the region, which are ultimately aimed at improving the life of the people here.

DEVELOPMENT OF GROWTH NODES

The heart of this corridor is the central region's immense wealth of energy resources—led by hydropower (28,000 MW), coal (1.46 billion tonnes), and natural gas (40.9 trillion square cubic feet). This in itself is expected to let Sarawak push its energy at competitive prices, as well as woo investments in power generation and energy-intensive industries.

Pivotal to these plans, of course, are the five New Growth Nodes—these

are Tanjung Manis, Mukah, Samalaju, Baram and Tunoh. Their selection in fact is elemental to the strategy of the region's growth plans. Not only will the Mukah Node transform into a spanking new Smart City, it will have the primary role of being the nerve centre of the corridor. The focus of development for the Tanjung Manis Node is to convert it into an Industrial Port City and Halal Hub. The activities of the Samalaju Node will become centric to its new avatar as the new Heavy Industry Centre. Tourism and resource-based industries will be centred at Baram and Tunoh. The growth and development of the Central Region and Arawak as a whole will be powered by the synergic drive of these New Growth Nodes. Benefits will accrue too, from their activities, for the corridor's Secondary Growth Centres, which include Semop, Balingian, Selangau, Samarakan, Bakun and Nanga Merit—as also from spatial development of the entire region.

FIVE-PRONGED STRATEGY

All this will fall in place with the five-pronged development strategy SCORE has up its metaphorical sleeve. This includes:-

- Diverting priority industries investments towards the three major growth nodes along the Corridor – Tanjung Manis (south), Mukah (centre) and Samalaju (north);
- Building an excellent network of industrial class transport and communication infrastructure inside the Corridor, which will also be extended outwards in order to systematically open up the hinterland;
- Speeding up the development of energy supply centring around present potentially viable hydro power (Murum, Limbang, Baram and Baleh) and coal deposit sites;
- Help speed up, with the aid of new learning centres and controlled immigration of skilled foreign workers, human capital development within the Corridor;
- By focusing on the natural attractions of the Central Region (especially the lakes upstream of the hydro power stations and the beaches along the



Murum Dam - Sarawak

northern part of the Corridor) help accelerate the development of the tourism industry here.

A slew of incentives are in the offing for all manner of investments. For example companies eligible for Pioneer Status in Sarawak can expect to get a tax

exemption of 100 per cent (normally 70 per cent) of their statutory income; companies eligible for Investment Tax Allowance can expect the rate of allowance to increase to a max of 100 per cent (normally 75 per cent) of the statutory income.

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FAST TRACK Investments

IN ORDER TO ENSURE THAT MALAYSIA ACHIEVES ITS GOAL AND ASPIRATION OF A DEVELOPED NATION BY 2020, THE GOVERNMENT HAS ESTABLISHED VARIOUS AGENCIES TO FACILITATE AND EXPEDITE INVESTMENTS

A diversified economy growing at a projected rate of 4.7 per cent, located strategically at the heart of ASEAN, with a GDP of more than US\$2 trillion and to top it all, it is also one of the countries with the lowest corporate tax rate of 25 per cent in 2014. Sounds like a dream investment destination? Malaysia is all that and more, as investing and doing business in the country is a breeze. Setting up an enterprise in Malaysia only requires three procedures, 5.5 days and costs 7.2 per cent of income per capita in fees, ensuring investors an efficient process when they choose to enter the market. After all, Malaysia was ranked 18th out of 189 countries for its best friendly atmosphere in Doing Business 2015 report by the World Bank. So whether you are an individual looking to expand to the heart of Asia or a corporate looking to capture the Asean market, help in Malaysia is just an email away.

TALENT CORPORATION MALAYSIA BHD (TALENTCORP)

Working directly under the Prime Minister's office, TalentCorp is tasked with the formulation and facilitation of initiatives to address the availability of talent in line with the country's requirement for economic transformation. TalentCorp is key to building effective partnerships, and addressing Malaysia's talent needs to enable the country to reach its aspiration of a high-income nation. TalentCorp collaborates with Malaysians abroad by raising awareness of professional opportunities in Malaysia and providing platforms for leading employers to engage with both students and professionals.

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INVESTKL

A Government entity under the purview of the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI), Ministry of Federal Territories and PEMANDU, the Performance Management and Delivery Unit under the Prime Minister's Department, InvestKL works with other government ministries, entities and agencies to formulate attractive fiscal packages, and help corporations identify business opportunities while strengthening their competitiveness regionally and globally. Offering convenient and seamless assistance, InvestKL team specialists ensure that investors experience a smooth and expedited process of setting up business.

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MINISTRY OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND INDUSTRY (MITI)

As the key ministry which has played a primary role in positioning Malaysia as a preferred investment destination and among the most globally trading nations by 2020, MITI's is responsible for overseeing and implementing international trade and industrial policies. Its website has bags full of information regarding foreign and domestic investment, international trade of Malaysia's manufacturing products and services and national productivity and competitiveness in the manufacturing sector. The website also has comprehensive details on free trade agreements with other economies, investment guarantee agreements and guidelines on permits and approvals. The easily navigable website will equip an interested investor with all required information including industry profile, demand and supply, market information etc.

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SPECIAL TASKFORCE TO FACILITATE BUSINESS (PEMUDAH)

The Special Task Force to Facilitate Business or PEMUDAH was established in 2007 to address bureaucracy in business-government dealings. It reports directly to the Prime Minister and is co-chaired by YBhg. Tan Sri Dr. Ali Hamsa, the Chief Secretary to the Government of Malaysia and YBhg. Dato' Saw Choo Boon, President of Federation of Malaysian Manufacturers (FMM). Its primary responsibilities include Reviewing the processes, procedures, legislation and human resources involved in the public delivery system, improving the ease of doing business and enhancing public and private sector collaboration to improve the country's competitiveness.

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PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT & DELIVERY UNIT (PEMANDU)

Set up in 2009 under the Prime Minister's Department. PEMANDU's chief objective is to oversee the implementation, assess the progress, facilitate as well as support the delivery and drive the progress of the Government Transformation Programme (GTP) and the Economic Transformation Programme (ETP). With an objective to attract US\$444 billion in investments which will, in turn, create 3.3 million new jobs, ETP through PEMANDU, continuously engages with prospective investors interested in participating in Malaysia's transformation into a high-income economy. In relation to the ETP, PEMANDU has been tasked with facilitating the implementation of the Entry Point Projects (EPPs) and Business Opportunities (BOs) that have been identified to ensure that Malaysia is transformed into a high-income nation by 2020.

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MALAYSIAN INVESTMENT DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (MIDA)

Established in 1967, MIDA was hailed by the World Bank as "the necessary impetus for purposeful, positive and coordinated promotional action" for Malaysia's industrial development. Today, MIDA's is Malaysia's cutting-edge, dynamic and pioneering force in opening pathways to new frontiers around the globe. Playing a critical role in promoting Malaysia's manufacturing and services sectors, MIDA is the government's principal agency assisting companies which intend to invest in those sectors and facilitating the implementation of their projects.

The agency equips investors with information on opportunities and also assists companies keen on finding local partners through joint venture. Furthermore, MIDA evaluates applications for projects in the manufacturing and services sectors. Its e-services include issuing manufacturing licenses, tax incentives, expatriate posts, duty exemptions on raw materials, components, machinery and equipment.

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EAST COAST ECONOMIC REGION

On a Roll For An Empowered Economy And People

THE GAME PLAN TO TRANSFORM THE NATION INTO A HIGH-INCOME ECONOMY IS EMPOWERED BY NEW POLICY DIRECTIONS, STRATEGIES AND PROGRAMMES WHICH HAVE BEEN WOVEN INTO THE FABRIC OF THE ELEVENTH MALAYSIA PLAN

Several important issues for the growth of Malaysia into a developed nation economy by 2030 are at the heart of the Eleventh Malaysia Plan (11MP), unveiled by PM Najib in Parliament. Themed 'Anchoring Growth on People' the 11MP reveals how the fresh outlook of the nation's development plan revolves around human capital, supported by policies which are aimed at an equitable society and a concerted focus on better living conditions for all Malaysians.

Within the embrace of the 11MP resides the agenda of a transformation

of the nation's future, which is set to be rooted on the bedrock of high income, inclusiveness and sustainability. The developments accrued by the 5-year plan (2016-2020) incorporates within its ambit the framework of the government's Vision 2020 agenda (launched by the former Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad in 1991) which envisaged Malaysia joining the ranks of fully developed nations by 2030.

Pivotal to growth and development in Malaysia's economy over the next five years will be human capital— and

according to the new policies and programmes the quickest and surest route is education and professional training, which will equip its people to capitalise on the opportunities in the job market—expected to grow as the economy opens up to the benefit of all Malaysians.

This second 5-year plan released by PM Najib forecasts a 5.6% real GDP growth of RM1.4 trillion in 2020, while projecting it to rise to RM2.6 trillion in 2030. Manufacturing and services sectors will contribute over 75 % of

the GDP. Inflation is expected to stay below 3% in this time frame and the federal government's debt to fall below 45%. While gross exports are expected to grow at 4.6% in this period, trade balance surplus is expected to stay at RM57.3 billion by 2020. Revenue is projected to expand by 7.9% p.a, while plans are afoot to drop oil-dependent revenues to 15% by 2020. With GST being introduced it is expected that it would accrue revenue of RM31.4 billion p.a over the next five years, as compared to the RM15.5 billion collected through the sales and services tax during the 10MP.

Important too at this juncture is a bigger role for the private sector—private investments are projected to hover around 9.4% (estimated at RM291 billion annually), during the run of the 11MP. The plan is investing heavily on the human factor and expects over 35 % of those employed will comprise skilled workers by 2020.

Its commitment to the wellbeing of its populace is a major thrust area for the government's development plans

between 2016-2020. The Malaysian Well-being Index is set to increase by 17 % p.a—indicating the rise in improvement of life for the populace. Inclusive and sustainable growth is a key element to the 11MP's economic projections. If the nation is able to achieve its targeted real GDP growth of RM1.4 trillion in 2020, the average monthly household income would rise to RM10,540 (\$2800) by 2020, and per capita GNI would reach RM54,100 (\$15,690)— placing the country comfortably above the developed economy level of \$12,745— set by the World Bank.

Plans are in place for the expanding of the nation's labour pool — which is also to be equipped with quality education and professional training, so that its up and running to capitalise on the 1.5m new jobs that will be up for grabs within this 5 year period; of these only 60% will be available for those with vocational education and training (TVET) skills. The government anticipates its labour productivity going up from RM77, 100 (\$20,487) to RM92, 000 (\$24,446) per worker by 2020; it expects that by 2030,

40% of Malaysia's labour force would be in this bracket. The 11MP also envisages a greater role of the private sector in this field 'to increase intake in TVET, improve the quality of programmes and institutions, and improve the sector's overall branding and profile.'

Integration, not just with the regional economy, but also with the global economy is very much on the cards, for Malaysia to capitalise on its increasingly robust prospects. World trade is estimated to grow to US\$44 trillion in 2030 (US\$26 trillion forecast in 2020).

Malaysia's middle class is rising exponentially— by 2020 it's expected to go up by 45%. The sweeping plans for infrastructural investment to support economic expansion are very much in sync with the federal government's agenda for re-engineering growth for greater prosperity. Kuala Lumpur, Johor Baharu, Kuching and Kota Kinabalu, are to be developed as growth catalyst cities not just to stimulate national growth but also to give accumulative benefits to their residents.





GERBANG NUSAJAYA

THE GATEWAY TO ISKANDAR MALAYSIA

Located at a strategic confluence between Malaysia and Singapore, Gerbang Nusajaya is designed as the gateway to Iskandar Malaysia. Master developer of Nusajaya and one of Malaysia's leading property developers, UEM Sunrise Berhad ("UEM Sunrise") has benchmarked the city on global best urban design practices that serve as an example for future integrated cities.

Driving growth via catalytic developments and strategic partnerships with established developers and multinational companies, Gerbang Nusajaya is set to draw various trades, industries and leisure attractions; together with a populace lured by top-notch residential and lifestyle offerings.



Spearheading Iskandar Malaysia's Growth

SET TO BECOME THE COMMERCIAL AND BUSINESS ENGINE OF NUSAJAYA, GERBANG NUSAJAYA CONTINUES TO ATTRACT GLOBAL INVESTORS INTO THE 4,551-ACRE GATEWAY DEVELOPMENT OF ISKANDAR MALAYSIA.

STRATEGIC LOCATION

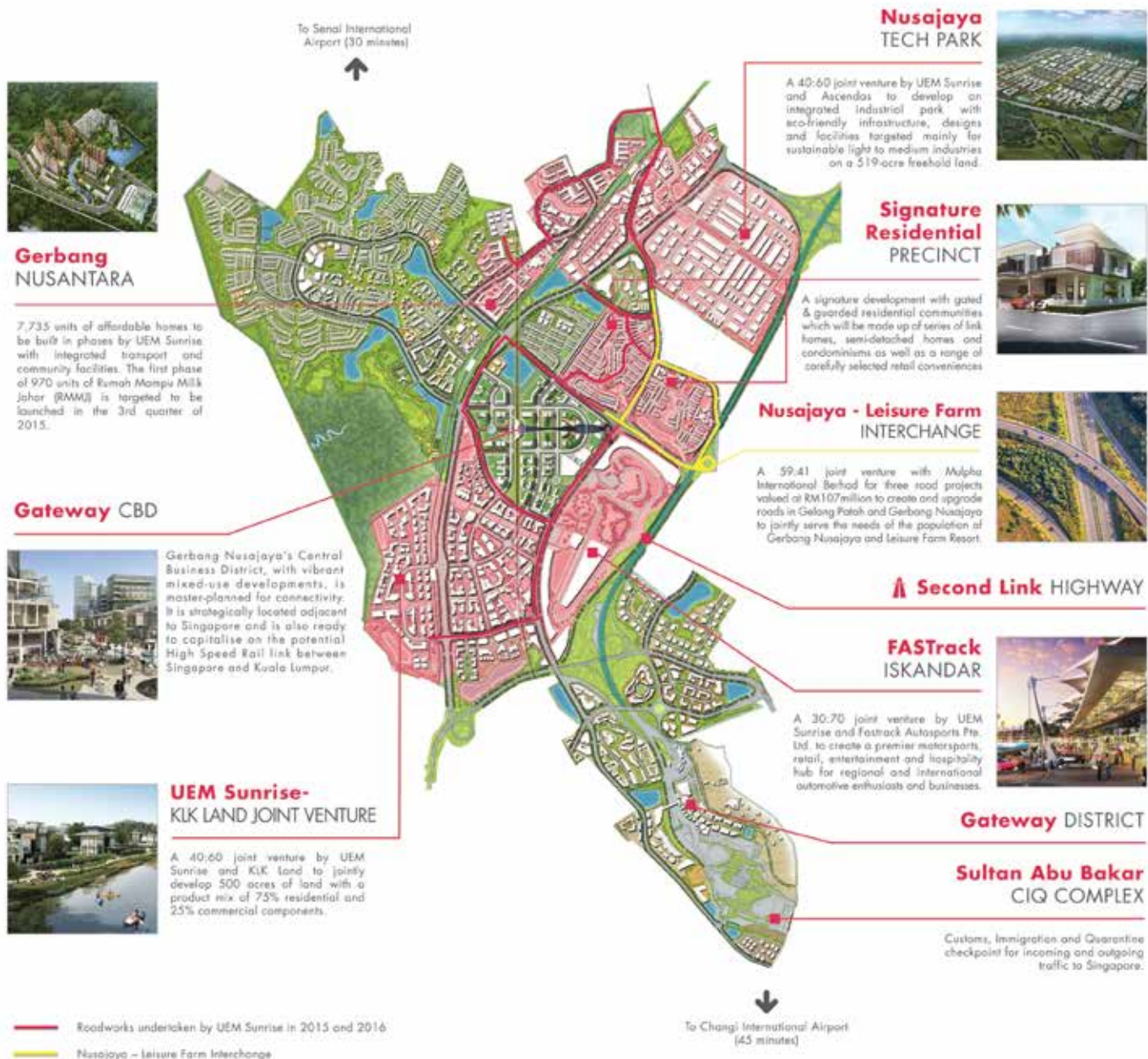
Gerbang Nusajaya is strategically located just 5km from the Tuas Checkpoint via the Malaysia-Singapore Second Link. It has easy access to Johor's Senai International Airport and Singapore's Changi International Airport, as well as four other international seaports – Port of Tanjung Pelepas, Port of Tanjung Langsat, Port of Pasir Gudang and Port of Singapore; thus facilitating in making it the future capital of the ASEAN economic

corridor.

Even as the city is master-planned for connectivity with both Malaysia and Singapore, as well as the regional cities within easy reach, Gerbang Nusajaya is also ready to capitalise on the proposed RM38.4 billion high speed rail ("HSR") link between Singapore and Malaysia's capital, Kuala Lumpur. It will serve as a location for the seventh high speed rail station before

reaching the Singapore terminus in Jurong East.

Alongside its commercial and business development plans, UEM Sunrise is developing Gerbang Nusajaya into a model eco-friendly city with the introduction of an Environment Management System, bio-swales and natural storm water management systems to minimise ecological impact on the neighbouring RAMSAR mangrove reserve.



Gerbang Nusajaya Masterplan

CITY OF POSSIBILITIES

The self-sustaining and integrated Gerbang Nusajaya will serve as a value-driven investment opportunity with a target reach of two billion people living, working and enjoying leisure time here. Envisioning it as a catalytic hub, with landmark developments such as the Nusajaya Tech Park, FASTTrack Iskandar, Gateway Central Business District ("CBD"), Signature Residential Precinct, Gerbang Nusantara, retail and educational zones and much more, UEM Sunrise has opened doors for financial and business opportunities to drive the economic growth and development of the region.

Renowned for its award-winning townships as well as high rise residential, commercial, retail and integrated developments, UEM

Sunrise's projects include Symphony Hills, Arcoris Mont'Kiara, Residensi Sefina Mont'Kiara, Residensi22 Mont'Kiara and Serene Heights Bangi in the Central Region of the peninsula. Meanwhile, in the Southern Region, the Company is the master developer of Nusajaya, featuring signature projects such as Kota Iskandar (Johor State Administrative Centre), Puteri Harbour and Southern Industrial and Logistics Cluster along with an array of residential offerings including East Ledang, Teega, Impiana, Nusa Bayu, Nusa Idaman and most recently, Estuari.

Internationally, UEM Sunrise's presence extends into Vancouver, Canada via Quintet mixed-use development, Aurora Melbourne Central and Conservatory in Melbourne, Australia. It is the appointed Project

Manager (Marketing) for developer, M+S Pte Ltd (a company owned by Khazanah and Temasek) for its Marina One and DUO mixed-use developments in Singapore. The Company also retains a land bank in Durban, South Africa.

UEM Sunrise is the flagship company for township and property development businesses of UEM Group Berhad ("UEM Group") and Khazanah Nasional Berhad ("Khazanah"). UEM Group is wholly-owned by Khazanah, an investment fund of the Government of Malaysia.

During the unveiling of Gerbang Nusajaya's comprehensive development plans last April, UEM Sunrise's Managing Director/Chief Executive Officer, Anwar Syahrin Abdul Ajib said, "Gerbang Nusajaya is set to become the commercial and business

engine for Nusajaya in Iskandar Malaysia and will bring long-term growth for the area.

"The unveiling of the comprehensive plans for Gerbang Nusajaya shows the vast potential that the area has to offer. As the master developer of Nusajaya, we are delighted to be working with our strategic partners, to firmly establish Gerbang Nusajaya as the key gateway to Iskandar Malaysia."

According to Brian Koh, Executive Director, Investment/Research & Consulting of DTZ Nawawi Tie Leung Sdn Bhd, "Gerbang Nusajaya is the new catalyst that will spearhead the next wave of growth in Iskandar Malaysia. Its developments will drive the commercial success of Nusajaya from its strategic location between Malaysia and Singapore."

Ong Choon Fah, Chief Executive Officer, Regional Head (South East Asia) of DTZ Debenham Tie Leung (SEA) Pte Ltd added, "The Nusajaya of tomorrow will be totally different from what it is today. We see for ourselves how attractive it has become as a location for business and lifestyle. We are confident that Gerbang Nusajaya which has been

comprehensively master-planned by UEM Sunrise will ensure long-term sustainable growth and become a successful business hub in its own right."

GROWTH ENGINES SPURRING OPPORTUNITIES

Commanding an unprecedented gross development value ("GDV") of RM42 billion, Gerbang Nusajaya will be developed over a period of 25 years. Upon full completion, an estimated 76,000 direct job offerings, 137,000 indirect job offerings together with a population of 220,000 is expected to benefit from the development. Featuring a number of catalytic developments to spur on growth opportunities, Gerbang Nusajaya has been well-planned to drive sustainable growth over the next two decades. Amongst its major projects are the unique catalytic developments such as the Nusajaya Tech Park, a 519-acre integrated eco-friendly tech park; FASTrack Iskandar, a 300-acre one of a kind 'motorsports city'; Gateway CBD, Gerbang Nusantara; Signature Residential Precinct; Nusajaya-Leisure Farm Interchange and a KLK Land joint venture ("JV") integrated development.

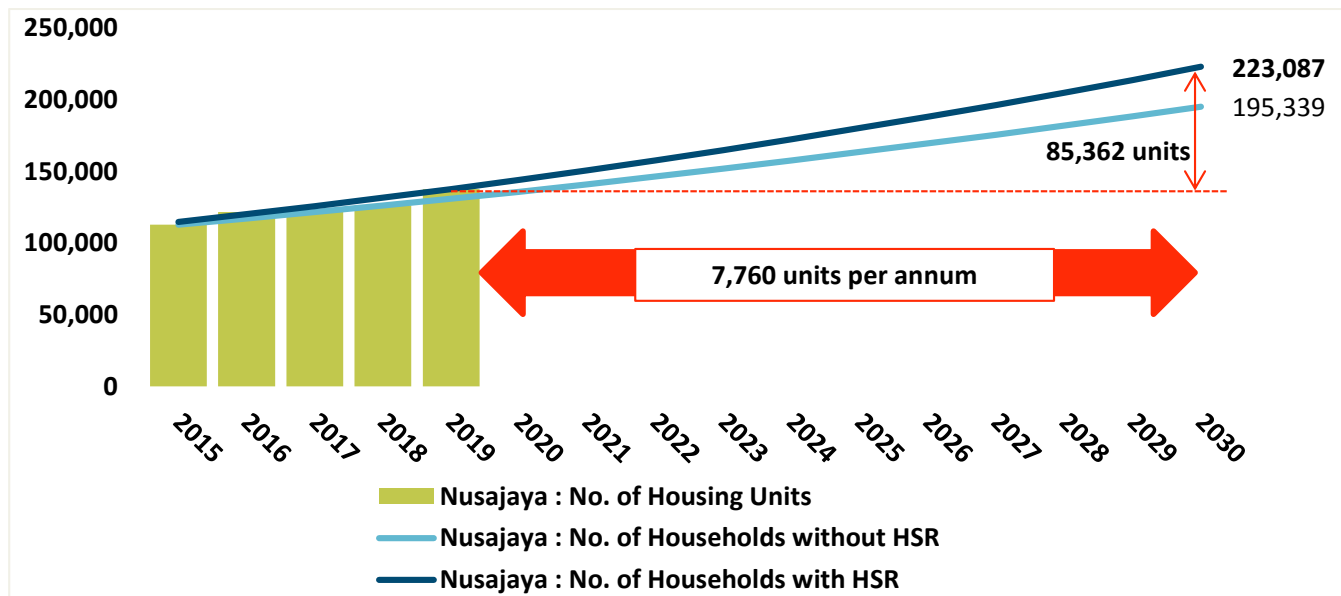
NUSAJAYA TECH PARK: BUILDING FUTURE BRICK-BY-BRICK

The integrated tech park is the first industrial tech park in Malaysia to have won the BCA Green Mark for Districts Gold. It is a 40:60 JV development between UEM Sunrise and the Singapore-based Ascendas; being developed on 519 acres of freehold land strategically located just five minutes away from the Malaysian CIQ Complex, making it one of the closest industrial sites to the Malaysia-Singapore Second Link. To be built in phases over nine years, the first batch of its Ready-Built Facilities is slated for completion by end-2015.

Featuring a well-researched master plan with quality infrastructure, award-winning green designs and an integrated park concept comprising industrial and commercial spaces, dormitories and supporting amenities, Nusajaya Tech Park is built with cutting-edge eco strategies geared towards sustainable business, environmental and community growth. Recognised for excellence by the Singapore Institute of Landscape Architects, the tech park is equipped with future-



Aerial view of Gerbang Nusajaya



Projected Housing Demand in Nusajaya

Source: DTZ Consulting and Research, January 2015.

ready industry infrastructure aimed at creating employment opportunities for about 22,000 people in light and medium industries such as electronics, pharmaceutical and medical devices, food processing, precision engineering, data centres, fast moving consumer goods, logistics and warehousing and general engineering services. It will offer Ready-Built Facilities and land plots for Build-to-Suit developments. JV partner Ascendas is Asia's leading provider of business space solutions and is known for its flagship projects such as Singapore Science Park, International Tech Park Bangalore, India and the acclaimed Suzhou Industrial Park in China.

Developed with an estimated gross development value of RM3.7 billion, Nusajaya Tech Park is on target to complete its first batch of ready-built facilities by year end, and has already attracted flagship clients such as Telekom Malaysia Berhad ("TM") and SANWA. Besides Ready-Built Facilities, the tech park will offer customised Build-to-Suit solutions, with both sale and lease options, to cater to the specific operational needs of companies. Complementing the park's infrastructure is a premier Business Concierge that offers one-stop business solutions to facilitate permits and license applications, authority liaison services and approvals, together with the application for special tax incentives.

The ground-breaking ceremony for Nusajaya Tech Park took place on 12 June 2014 following which it has already been commended by leaders of Singapore and Malaysia, during the recent Malaysia-

Singapore Leaders' Retreat. In a joint statement issued by Malaysian Prime Minister, Dato' Sri Mohd Najib Tun Abdul Razak and Singapore Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong said, "The Leaders welcome the development of the new Nusajaya Tech Park which is expected to create jobs in high tech industries, providing a strong push to the development of Iskandar Malaysia".

FASTRACK ISKANDAR: ONE OF A KIND

Spearheading the unique concept of an integrated automotive hub in Asia, complemented by commercial, retail and lifestyle amenities, FASTrack Iskandar is a 30:70 joint venture between UEM Sunrise and FASTrack Autosports (Iskandar) Pte. Ltd. This one of a kind project is set to develop the first premier motorsports, retail, entertainment and hospitality hub in Southeast Asia.

Estimated at RM 3.7 billion in GDV, the 300-acre 'motorsports city' has a long-term goal of establishing a premier automotive centre with research, development and testing facilities juxtaposed with other lifestyle destination attractions and event facilities; and is expected to create over 5,000 high-skilled jobs. Its crown jewel is its 4.5km FIA Grade 1 Race Track, dubbed as the 'Nürburgring of Iskandar Malaysia', is designed by world-renowned Hermann Tilke, best known for the Sepang International Circuit in Malaysia and Yas Marina Circuit in Abu Dhabi UAE. The development's other components comprise:

a) Dynamic driving centre for defensive

driving courses and instructional driver training for all ages

- b) Motor arcade and high security storage for high-value classic, high performance and collectible vehicles
- c) Off-road track challenging both beginners and recreational enthusiasts.
- d) CIK Grade-A outdoor go-kart track
- e) Workshops and retail businesses featuring various premium automotive brands and after-market services.

FASTrack Iskandar's premier automotive centre will bring high value auto-services and high performance technologies into Malaysia and help the country move up the global value chain. Furthermore, the motorsports city seeks to attract a complete portfolio of major international and national events catapulting Malaysia's profile on the international circuit.

GATEWAY CBD: CAPITALISING ON HSR LINK

A green place for living, working and enjoying leisure time, Gerbang Nusajaya's CBD, will be filled with vibrant mixed-use developments. With lush urban parks forming an oasis amidst a concrete jungle, leafy streetscapes and sky-rise gardens, Gateway CBD is master-planned for connectivity. It is strategically located adjacent to Singapore and is also ready to capitalise on the potential HSR link between Singapore and Kuala Lumpur.

SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES

Ongoing projects in the Gerbang Nusantara residential district includes 7,735 units of affordable housing, community facilities, amenities such as mosques, schools and colleges, hospitals, multi-purpose halls and parks. The upcoming phases will feature a creation of meaningful spaces such as play areas for various age groups, gated and guarded residential complexes and others.

SIGNATURE RESIDENTIAL PRECINCT

The development of freehold residential projects known as Signature Residences, comprising two land plots with a GDV of RM2 billion will be made up of a series of link homes, semi-detached homes and condominiums as well as a range of retail conveniences. In line with UEM Sunrise's vision of an eco-friendly city, the residential precinct will have convenient road networks respecting the existing terrain, while the hill slopes will be developed as thematic residential zones with picturesque lake views.

KLK LAND JOINT VENTURE

Conveniently located close to Gateway CBD, the 40:60 JV between UEM Sunrise and KLK Land will see the development of a residential and commercial mixed zone. The unique feature of the project will be low

Why Gerbang Nusajaya?

A CATALYTIC HUB TO LIVE, WORK & PLAY

A VALUE-DRIVEN INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY

4,551 ACRES WITH A TARGET REACH OF 2 BILLION PEOPLE WITHIN 6 HOURS' FLIGHT

IMMEDIATE PROXIMITY TO SINGAPORE
IN TERMS OF BUSINESS, RETAIL, LEISURE, EDUCATION AND RESIDENCES



76,000
ESTIMATED DIRECT JOBS



137,000
UPON COMPLETION

220,000
ESTIMATED POPULATION UPON COMPLETION



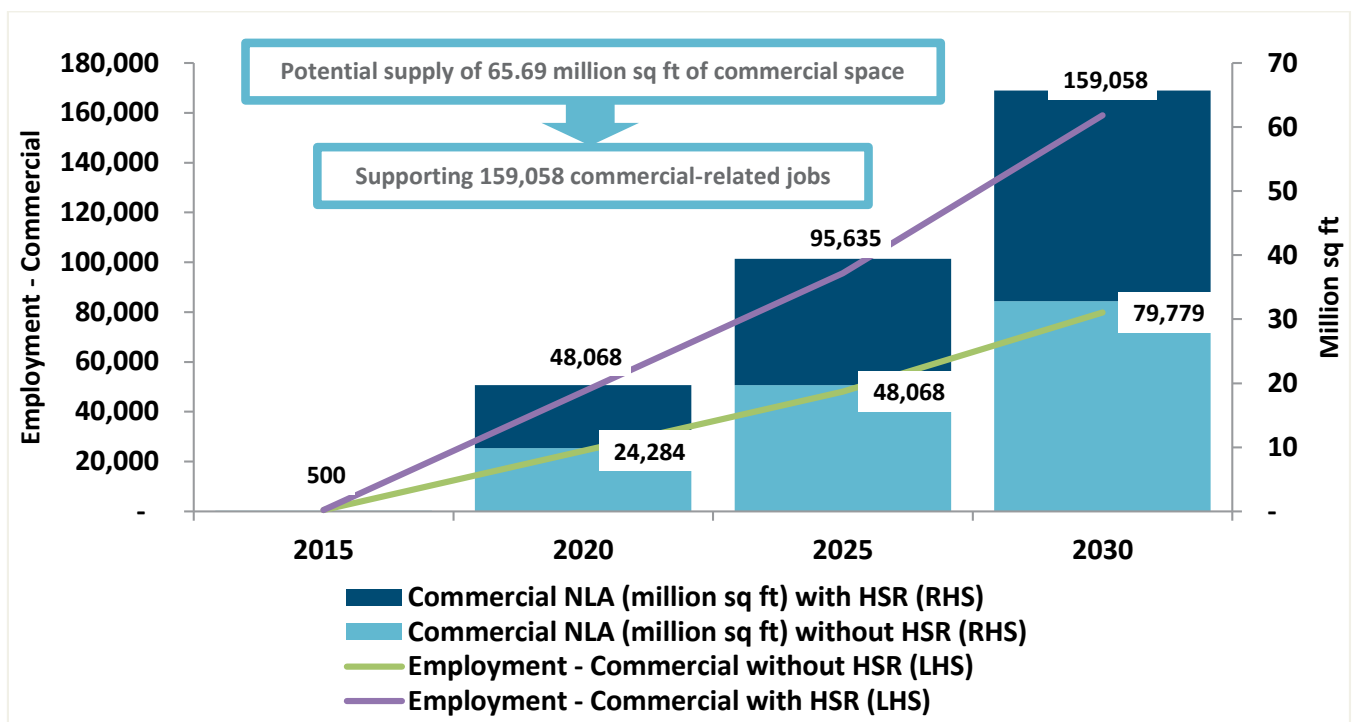
rise residential thematic enclaves, al fresco retail and vibrant commercial clusters, green streets, garden walkways etc.

The joint venture team has appointed three international architects to submit proposals to design the 500 acre plot, which will comprise 75 per cent of residential and 25 per cent of commercial and retail components. The residential components will mainly include landed properties in a resort setting such as canal homes with a mix of townhouses, super links, semi-detached bungalows as well as low to mid-rise garden apartments. The design will emphasise on maintaining the existing terrain and to take advantage of the natural beauty of the RAMSAR Site Wetlands, whilst incorporating modern

infrastructure to promote connectivity, security and safety.

SYNERGETIC COLLABORATIONS

The engine that drives the success of Gerbang Nusajaya are the strategic partnerships and productive collaborations with established entities who bring in their expertise to make Gerbang Nusajaya a city of the future. UEM Sunrise being the master planner has welcomed meaningful association with successful partners who have a proven track record. Furthermore, with the upcoming township making waves across the world, investors and businesses keen to work with UEM Sunrise have been eager to collaborate in various aspects of this massive project.



Projected commercial-related jobs in Gerbang Nusajaya

Source: DTZ Consulting and Research, January 2015.



Entrance view of Nusajaya Tech Park

JOINING HANDS WITH TELEKOM MALAYSIA ("TM")

A case in point is the successful signing of three agreements between Malaysia's leading broadband champion and integrated information and communications group, TM and UEM Sunrise, where the former will invest in Nusajaya Tech Park to develop a purpose-built data centre.

The collaboration covers a broad scope including connectivity, data centre and cloud services, as well as smart services which will be readily available to all locators and business owners in the park. The development of the Nusajaya Data Centre ("NJDC") will be implemented in three phases with Phase 1 of the development expected to be ready in the second half of 2016. The NJDC will be TM's largest purpose-built data centre. This carrier neutral data centre, with an international network gateway, will serve as a regional hub for VADS Cloud and Managed Data Centre services.

The second agreement saw TM as the preferred service provider for ICT infrastructure and services within the tech park. With this, Nusajaya Tech Park will be High-Speed Broadband ("HSBB") ready and businesses can enjoy high quality connectivity from day one of their business operations in the park.

The third collaboration will be to jointly explore the development of smart services that include safety and security services for the tech park. It will offer a differentiated customer experience to companies in Nusajaya Tech Park where they can truly enjoy a smart and integrated work environment. "This milestone further validates our commitment to establish Gerbang Nusajaya as the gateway to the region,

and the commercial and business engine for Nusajaya. It also puts us on track for the creation of 22,000 jobs in Nusajaya Tech Park by 2020," said Raymond Cheah, Chief Operating Officer, Commercial, UEM Sunrise cum Board Member of Nusajaya Tech Park Sdn Bhd.

MOU FOR PARK-WITHIN-PARK

Asia Pacific's leading integrated logistics and end-to-end supply chain solutions partner, YCH Group ("YCH") has signed a Memorandum of Understanding ("MOU") with Nusajaya Tech Park to develop a District Park within the Nusajaya Tech Park; it will cater to full suite logistics and supply chain activities required by companies located in Iskandar Malaysia. The MOU signing was conducted at the ground-breaking ceremony of the Nusajaya Tech Park on 12 June 2014, which was officiated by Guests-of-Honour, Dato' Sri Mustapa Mohamed, Minister of International Trade and Industry, Malaysia and Mr. Lim Hng Kiang, Minister for Trade & Industry, Singapore. Designed to house manufacturing companies in sectors such as precision engineering, electronics, pharmaceutical and medical devices and more. Nusajaya Tech Park is the perfect collaboration project for YCH's existing customer portfolio.

SPEARHEADING GROWTH IN ISKANDAR MALAYSIA

In a market assessment report on Gerbang Nusajaya by DTZ Consulting and Research, the integrated city was proclaimed as the future major commercial hub in Iskandar Malaysia. According to the report, with its key projects such as Nusajaya Tech Park, FASTrack Iskandar and Gateway CBD,

Gerbang Nusajaya is well positioned as the major commercial hub in Iskandar Malaysia; it also helps make Nusajaya the engine of growth due to its immediate connectivity via the Malaysia-Singapore Second Link and the proposed HSR station in Gerbang Nusajaya. Given the catalytic investments in Government, Tourism & leisure, Education, Creative, Healthcare & wellness, Business & industry, Commerce & finance, Property & infrastructure - job creation and population growth is expected to trend towards Nusajaya.

Furthermore, the report highlights the upside potential of the proposed HSR between Malaysia and Singapore, where more commercial activities and creation of additional job opportunities can be expected with Gerbang Nusajaya, with it being the proposed location for a HSR station.

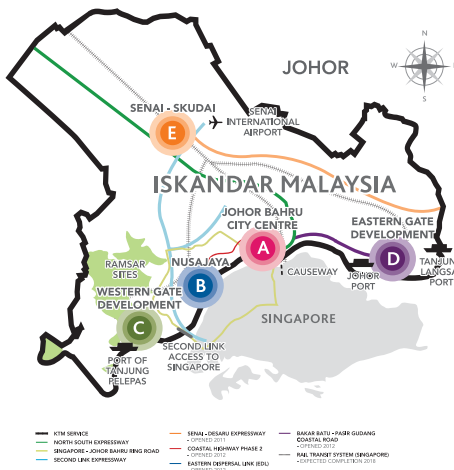
The market assessment report further asserts that approximately 30 per cent of Iskandar Malaysia's population will be based in Nusajaya. With the presence of the HSR, the number of households in Nusajaya will be 14 per cent higher than the base case scenario, widening the residential demand from 57,600 units to over 85,000 units.

Nusajaya of tomorrow will have transformed the region bringing long-term sustainable growth and claiming its rightful place as a successful business hub in ASEAN. It is the new catalyst that will spearhead the next wave of growth in Iskandar Malaysia.

For more information, please visit
www.gerbangnusajaya.com
 or enquire at
gn@uemsunrise.uemnet.com

ISKANDAR MALAYSIA'S TAKE ON SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL WELL-BEING

SNAPSHOT OF PROJECTS



FLAGSHIP A			FLAGSHIP B			FLAGSHIP C		
JB TRANSFORMATION PROGRAMME			NEWCASTLE UNIVERSITY MEDICINE MALAYSIA (NMM)			PETROCHEMICAL & MARITIME INDUSTRIAL HUB TO, BY, FROM		
SG. SEGGET REHABILITATION	2015	EXPECTED COMPLETION	NEWCASTLE UNIVERSITY MEDICINE MALAYSIA (NMM)	2011	OPENED	PHASE 1	2015	COMPLETED
ISKANDAR JOHOR BAHRU (JMB)	2014	EXPECTED COMPLETION	NETHERLANDS MARITIME INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY	2012	OPENED	PHASE 2	2012	COMPLETED
UN-LAND	2014	EXPECTED COMPLETION	UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHAMPTON	2012	OPENED	PHASE 3	2012	COMPLETED
JACK BOONFAR - DAMANGARA ADJET	2014	EXPECTED COMPLETION	UNIVERSITY OF READING MALAYSIA	2012	OPENED	PHASE 4	2012	COMPLETED
SKY 88 - SETIA	2016	EXPECTED COMPLETION	RAFFLES UNIVERSITY ISKANDAR	2012	OPENED	PHASE 5	2012	COMPLETED
TROPEZ - OLIVIA	2014	EXPECTED COMPLETION	RAFFLES AMERICAN SCHOOL	2012	OPENED	PHASE 6	2012	COMPLETED
COUNTRY GARDEN	2014	EXPECTED COMPLETION	MAIRBOROUGH COLLEGE	2012	OPENED	PHASE 7	2012	COMPLETED
ISKANDAR WATERFRONT DEVELOPMENT	2014	EXPECTED COMPLETION	LEGOLAND® MALAYSIA WATER PARK	2012	OPENED	PHASE 8	2012	COMPLETED
KSL RESORT HOTEL	2014	EXPECTED COMPLETION	LEGOLAND® HOTEL	2014	OPENED	PHASE 9	2012	COMPLETED
DOUBLETREE BY HILTON, JB CITY CENTRE	2014	EXPECTED COMPLETION	MAIL OF MEDINI	2013	OPENED	PHASE 10	2012	COMPLETED
AMANA HOTEL, JB CITY CENTRE	2015	EXPECTED COMPLETION	PETER HARBOR	2012	OPENED	PHASE 11	2012	COMPLETED
ST. GEORGE'S, SOUTH KEY	2016	EXPECTED COMPLETION	PETER HARBOR FAMILY THEME PARK	2012	OPENED	PHASE 12	2012	COMPLETED
FLAGSHIP B	2015	EXPECTED COMPLETION	KOTA ISKANDAR	2013	OPENED	PHASE 13	2012	COMPLETED
AFAT HEALTHPARK	2015	EXPECTED COMPLETION	PHASE 2	2013	OPENED	PHASE 14	2012	COMPLETED
COLUMBIA ASIA HOSPITAL	2010	OPENED	PHASE 3	2015	EXPECTED COMPLETION	PHASE 15	2012	COMPLETED
BUMAH ISKANDAR MALAYSIA	2011	LAUNCHED	FINWOOD ISKANDAR MALAYSIA STUDIOS	2013	OPENED	PHASE 16	2012	COMPLETED
EDUCITY™ @ ISKANDAR	2014	EXPECTED COMPLETION	GLENEAGLES MEDINI HOSPITAL	2014	OPENED	PHASE 17	2012	COMPLETED
			TRAVELERS HOTEL	2013	OPENED	PHASE 18	2012	COMPLETED
			SOHERSET SERVICED RESIDENCE, PUTER HARBOR	2014	EXPECTED COMPLETION	PHASE 19	2012	COMPLETED
						PHASE 20	2012	COMPLETED
						PHASE 21	2012	COMPLETED
						PHASE 22	2012	COMPLETED
						PHASE 23	2012	COMPLETED
						PHASE 24	2012	COMPLETED
						PHASE 25	2012	COMPLETED
						PHASE 26	2012	COMPLETED
						PHASE 27	2012	COMPLETED
						PHASE 28	2012	COMPLETED
						PHASE 29	2012	COMPLETED
						PHASE 30	2012	COMPLETED
						PHASE 31	2012	COMPLETED
						PHASE 32	2012	COMPLETED
						PHASE 33	2012	COMPLETED
						PHASE 34	2012	COMPLETED
						PHASE 35	2012	COMPLETED
						PHASE 36	2012	COMPLETED
						PHASE 37	2012	COMPLETED
						PHASE 38	2012	COMPLETED
						PHASE 39	2012	COMPLETED
						PHASE 40	2012	COMPLETED
						PHASE 41	2012	COMPLETED
						PHASE 42	2012	COMPLETED
						PHASE 43	2012	COMPLETED
						PHASE 44	2012	COMPLETED
						PHASE 45	2012	COMPLETED
						PHASE 46	2012	COMPLETED
						PHASE 47	2012	COMPLETED
						PHASE 48	2012	COMPLETED
						PHASE 49	2012	COMPLETED
						PHASE 50	2012	COMPLETED

The people of Iskandar Malaysia have been enjoying support in many other ways as well, including in moderating the cost of living through Koperasi Iskandar Malaysia Berhad's (IMCoop) multiple retail formats and supply chain.

A total of 150 IMCoop stores are being established within Iskandar Malaysia in the next three years, offering fair prices to the customers and helping them to mitigate with the rising cost of living.

ISKANDAR A HEALTHY PLACE AND HEALY ENVIRONMENT

IRDA from the onset has been fully aware that in developing Iskandar Malaysia it has to achieve a healthy balance between development and the well-being of the environment.

Thus its Low Carbon Society Blueprint paved the way for green economy and technology, the hallmark of well-balanced development in Iskandar Malaysia.

In line with the Malaysian Government's effort to achieve a 40 percent voluntary reduction of CO2 emission intensity by 2020, the implementation of the blueprint will facilitate the low carbon development of Iskandar Malaysia.

Being one of the fastest growing regions in Malaysia, this demonstrates the realisation of how a low carbon society can be achieved by decoupling CO2 emissions and economic growth.

WHAT ONE CAN EXPECT OF ISKANDAR MALAYSIA IN THE FUTURE

In Iskandar Malaysia, the gross domestic product is projected to increase from RM52.1 billion in 2013 to RM120.4 billion by 2025 with an average annual growth rate of 7.5 percent between 2016-2020 period and 7.7 percent between 2021-2025 period.

Moreover, the population of Iskandar Malaysia is projected to grow positively due to talents attracted by the increase of newly created jobs as well as improved living environment. By 2025, it is projected that Iskandar Malaysia will be a leading metropolis in Johor.

The development region that stretches across the Johor Bahru city, and the towns of Pontian, Senai and Pasir Gudang not only provides a new landmark for Malaysia, but also a place for people to invest, work live and play in a whole new way.

Iskandar Malaysia is not just about high-rises, businesses and enterprises and wealth generation. There is more to it, including wealth sharing and inclusiveness for the dwellers and optimising resources to preserve the environment.

Hence, in the bigger picture the 2,217 square kilometre corridor not only promises the well-being of its dwellers in the economic sense, but also in the social realm for the people.

Thus it is not surprising that the Iskandar Development Authority (IRDA), that sets the directions, policies and strategies along with the local authorities for Iskandar Malaysia, has set the social and economic well-being of the dwellers as the benchmark to gauge Iskandar Malaysia's success.

ISKANDAR MALAYSIA PROMISES QUALITY LIFE

This is why apart from outlining the physical development, IRDA plays a profound role in planning out community and social development. It's not mere

corporate social responsibility, it is an integral element in the development of Iskandar Malaysia.

Socio-economic mobility through employment opportunities and participation in economic activities will help individuals and households move up the economic ladder. However, they have to be prepared to grab the opportunities.

And this is where IRDA plays a crucial role as well, a role that is often oblivious to many. IRDA believes that human capital is pertinent in ensuring Iskandar Malaysia emerges as a strong, sustainable metropolis of international standing.

In developing the human capital, and in carrying out the endeavour in earnest, IRDA has literally gone to the basics with the emphasis on mindset change, where the people are encouraged to acquire knowledge and skills, and participate in the economic and social agenda.

In ensuring an effective outcome in mindset change, the stakeholders like learning institutions and community based organisations within the corridor too have been roped in to help.

Other than employment, Iskandar Malaysia provides a myriad of economic opportunities for the locals, including in ecotourism to help the locals improve their livelihood.

THE MALAYSIAN ASSOCIATION IN SINGAPORE

Bonding Bonhomie

MR ABRAHAM VERGIS, THE FOUNDING PRESIDENT OF MASIS, HAS PUT TOGETHER A MOTIVATED TEAM TO BRING TOGETHER, UNDER THE UMBRELLA OF THE MALAYSIAN ASSOCIATION IN SINGAPORE, FELLOW MALAYSIANS RESIDING IN SINGAPORE, TO BOND OVER AND CELEBRATE THEIR SHARED CULTURAL HERITAGE. MASIS IS NOT ONLY AN EXCELLENT PLATFORM FOR SHOWCASING MALAYSIA'S UNIQUE CULTURE IN SINGAPORE, IT ALSO UNDERPINS THE STRENGTH OF THE GROWING BILATERAL RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES

PLEASE TELL US SOMETHING ABOUT THE BACKGROUND OF THE MALAYSIAN ASSOCIATION IN SINGAPORE. HOW IT STARTED AND WHAT ARE ITS OBJECTIVES?

The Malaysian Association in Singapore ("MASIS") was launched in October 2014. It was started by a group of Malaysians living in the city state,

as we wanted to create a community of Malaysians here and celebrate our shared identity and values through social, cultural, educational and economic activities. We also aim to provide an avenue for networking amongst members in Singapore and create a platform for the exchange of ideas.

PLEASE SHARE WITH US DETAILS OF ANY PAST EVENTS YOU ORGANIZED HERE WHICH RECEIVED A GOOD RESPONSE BY THE CITY?

We have already successfully hosted a number of events, including the popular "Mari Makan" dinner and the "Mari Masak" (Come and Cook) cooking classes.

WHAT IS THE CRITERION FOR BECOMING A MEMBER OF MASIS, AND WHAT FACILITIES/ SERVICES CAN THEY AVAIL OF?

Anyone who is presently/formerly a Malaysian citizen working or residing in Singapore, a Singaporean Citizen who is a permanent resident of Malaysia, or the child of current/former Malaysian Citizen is eligible for membership. We also offer Family and Student Memberships. Companies with Malaysian interests and are also carrying on business in Singapore may opt for our Corporate Membership.

Members get special discounted rates for all our events, and there are plans in the pipeline for tie-ups with external organisations to give members access to special discounts and offers.

For more details on membership requirements, or to sign up as a member, you can visit our website masis.org.sg or look us up on Facebook.

PLEASE TELL US SOMETHING ABOUT YOUR EXISTING MEMBERS AND ANY FUTURE EVENTS WHICH ARE ON THE ANVIL?

We currently have in the region of 300 members, which is a fairly



Mr Abraham Vergis, the founding President of MASIS

decent number for a newly-formed association.

Plans are afoot, as part of the forthcoming events agenda of the Association, to expand the number and type of activities open to members. This would include a Durian Buffet alongside our regular events such as the badminton sessions and networking drinks in the CBD. We are also planning a trip to Mt Kinabalu in the coming year.

There are also plans to launch a Distinguished Malaysian Speaker series next year, aimed at showcasing prominent Malaysians who have excelled in their respective fields.

The MASIS committee and board members had a very rewarding interaction at the Shangri-La Hotel with the Malaysian Prime Minister Dato' Sri Mohd Najib Tun Abdul Razak during his recent Annual Malaysia-Singapore Leaders' Retreat. In fact, you can stay updated on all upcoming events via our website.

HOW CAN THE MALAYSIAN ASSOCIATION HELP MALAYSIANS WHO ARE WORKING, STUDYING OR RELOCATING TO SINGAPORE? HOW DO YOU HELP THEM SETTLE IN THE NEW COUNTRY?

A big part of moving to or settling into a new country is meeting people. An organization like MASIS can help to ease the transition by giving newly-arrived Malaysians in Singapore a chance to meet other people who share the same experiences, and also give them a taste of home once in a while.

SINCE THE ASSOCIATION'S LAUNCH LAST YEAR, HOW HAS THE RESPONSE BEEN SO FAR?

The response has been great! The numbers speak for themselves – we've had membership surge to around 300 members in the short span of 8 months since we started. The feedback we've received from members has been very positive. There is a general consensus across the board that an organization like this was long overdue. It's heartening to see that the members are so excited about MASIS. We're

constantly getting new ideas for events, and have lots of people coming forward to volunteer their time and resources to the Association.

We have also been lucky to receive exceptional support from the Malaysian High Commission under the able leadership of Datuk Husni Zai Yaakob.

THERE ARE MANY SECOND AND THIRD GENERATION MALAYSIANS IN SINGAPORE

WHO HAVE NEVER BEEN TO MALAYSIA. HOW CAN THE ORGANISATION HELP THEM GET IN TOUCH WITH THEIR ROOTS?

MASIS does organize trips to Malaysia, so if they've never been to Malaysia we can help fix that. But on a deeper level, MASIS gives second or third generation Malaysians a chance to experience that uniquely Malaysian culture through our events, and by providing them with a platform to interact with other Malaysians.

THE MALAYSIAN ASSOCIATION IN SINGAPORE (MASIS)

The Malaysian Association In Singapore (MASIS) was officially launched on Friday 31 October 2014 at Agrobazaar by His Excellency Datuk Husni Yaacob, High Commissioner of Malaysia to Singapore. MASIS is a non-profit society operating under the benign patronage of Singapore's Malaysian High Commission. MASIS is a vibrant organization which regularly arranges activities to promote Malaysian culture —be it through the Malaysian-themed arts and cultural events, sports and recreational events, or through business and networking opportunities and special initiatives for students living in the city state.



The Malaysian Association In Singapore (MASIS) was officially launched on Friday 31st October 2014 at Agrobazaar by His Excellency Datuk Husni Zai Yaacob the High Commissioner of Malaysia to Singapore.



CAUSEWAYEXCHANGE VISIT

Celebrates 50 Years of Malaysia-Singapore Bilateral Ties

THE CULTURAL TIES BETWEEN TWO COUNTRIES ARE THE HUMAN FACE OF BILATERAL RELATIONS WHICH ARE PRIMARILY DRIVEN BY ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL FORCES. ONE OF THE GREAT HIGHLIGHTS OF THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THIS MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL ARRANGEMENT ARE THE VISITS TO PENANG AND JOHOR BAHRU OF CAUSEWAYEXCHANGE, AN ARTS AND CULTURAL INITIATIVE LAUNCHED JOINTLY BY MALAYSIA AND SINGAPORE IN 2010.

The CausewayEXchange (CEX) has from the very start done a brilliant job as a platform that has brought together the arts and creative communities of Malaysia and Singapore. Its vibrant atmosphere has created the ideal setting for fostering even greater collaborations between both the newer crop of artists as well as the veteran from both countries. This annual festival not only celebrates the creative spirit in the arts (with wonderfully curated performances and masterpieces) but also provides both artisans and their audiences precious opportunities to enjoy the artistic bonhomie of educational workshops run by professionals at this much-awaited event. Over 180 projects, ranging from





CausewayEXchange Festival

August 1st – August 31st — PENANG

August 10th – September 11th — JOHOR BAHRU

visual, literary and performing arts to mixed media have savoured the highs of a successful run, thanks to the immeasurable emotional and practical support extended by CEX since 2010.

The CausewayEXchange (CEX) festival in 2015 coincides with not one but two Golden anniversaries — Singapore's

50th Anniversary and 50 years of bilateral relations between Malaysia and Singapore. And it is being staged in two Malaysian states, Penang and Johor Bahru, where it's going to be celebrated for the first time ever. Though CEX returned to Penang in August for the second year as part of the George Town Festival, it will be

visiting Johor Bahru from the beginning of August to beginning September, for a month, the first time in conjunction with the JB Arts Festival.

This year's festival is expected to be an even greater success for CEX's agenda of increasing the support and broadening the audience base for Malaysian and Singaporean arts and culture by introducing the two countries to each other's diverse and multicultural arts scenes; CEX also facilitates a wide spectrum of opportunities and awareness for cultural exchange programmes between the two through the intermediary of artistic and social activities.

Shawn Lourdasamy, Founder & Festival Director of CEX, is quick to point out that, "It is the continuous positive feedback from artistes who have performed at CEX that keeps us going. Artistes have reported to us that they have benefited from this exchange, even more so when we showcase collaborative works across disciplines and genres, which will be seen in our line-up this year."

CEX's multiple choice of offerings at the festival this year in Penang and Johor Bahru included literary, visual and performance arts events.

HIGHLIGHTS

PENANG

Where The Heart: Features works of renowned artist Sandra Lee. Though she's Malaysia born, her nomadic life and her Malaysian roots have enriched her craft immeasurably. She now lives in Singapore, but this was her first exhibition in Malaysia.

Date: 1 – 31 August 2015 | **Time:** 10am – 10pm | **Venue:** China House, Gallery, 153, Lebuh Pantai

Islands In Between Video installation by Sherman Ong, internationally celebrated filmmaker, photographer and visual artist. His works use the documentary/ethnographic film genre to tell stories of migration, trans-border identities, myths and memories in the islands of Southeast Asia

Date: 1 – 31 August 2015 | **Time:** 11am – 7pm | **Venue:** Singapore House, 179 Victoria Street

The Siong Leng Musical Association Performance: Featuring Nanyin music, known also as xianguan or nanguan music with is originally rooted in the musical culture of the Minnan people in southern Fujian Province. By the 19th century it had spread across South East Asia and gotten absorbed into the musical traditions of this great cultural melting pot.

Date: 29 August 2015 | **Time:** 6.00pm & 8.00pm | **Venue:** Cheah Kongsi, 8, Gat Lebuh Armenian

JOHOR BAHRU

Nadi Singapura: Singaporean drum ensemble using the traditional drums of the Malay Archipelago. Inspired by theatrical drumming and percussion groups like Japan's Drum Tao, the UK's Stomp and Brazil's Monobloco group. Get ready for some great, high-wire, foot tapping numbers

Date: 19 September 2015 | **Time:** 8.30pm | **Venue:** Festival Main Stage@ Mall of Medini

The Singapore Literary Panel: Interaction on 'The Impact of the 1965 Separation on Malaysian and Singaporean Literature', which will be conducted by a multilingual panel of over a dozen shortlisted Singapore authors from the 2014 Singapore Literature Prize (SLP)

Date: 12 September 2015 | **Time:** 2.00pm - 7.00pm | **Venue:** Foyer @ MAP Nusajaya, Mall of Medini

Singapore Heritage Short Films: Six winners of the Singapore Heritage Short Film Competition. The films showcase views of the surviving Hakka and Peranakan Culture in Singapore, explorations of the city's old kampongs and the revival of lion dancing among Singapore's youth.

Date: 24 September 2015 | **Time:** 8.30pm | **Venue:** Festival Main Stage@ Mall of Medini

HOW TO BE a Durian Expert!

PROBABLY THE MOST POPULAR OF MALAYSIAN FRUITS, AGROBAZAAR MALAYSIA PROVIDES A SHORT COURSE ON DURIAN APPRECIATION!

Durian which has the scientific name *Durio Zibethinus*, is a very popular fruit in terms of its superior taste as well as its benefits. No wonder that people who know those positive values of durian call it "The King of Fruits".

Agrobazaar Singapore at Sultan Gate, near the Singapore Malay Heritage Museum, is a Malaysian government-funded initiative, serves authentic Malaysia food as well as Malaysian grown and produced goods. It is also famous for having the best of Malaysian fruits and durian is on top of its list of favourites by Singaporeans.

The durian flesh is best eaten fresh and is definitely an acquired taste. Its enthusiasts regale its soft, nutty, sweet, custardy flesh. The fruit

is large and covered in sharp olive-coloured hard spikes, thus handled with care. Those who prefer a modest aroma, puree the flesh and add it in ice cream, jams or desserts.

FROZEN DURIAN PULP

For the China market, Malaysia Durian in frozen pulp form has been in the market since 2011. It has been approved by General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine of The People's Republic of China (AQSIQ). The suitable varieties in the frozen form are D24 & D197 (Maosan King).

HEALTH BENEFITS

The fruit is made of soft, easily digestible flesh that is composed of simple sugars like fructose and sucrose

that when eaten replenish energy and revitalize the body instantly. Though it contains a relatively high amount of fats among fruits, it is free from saturated fats and cholesterol.

The fruit is an excellent source of health benefitting B-complex groups of vitamins. These vitamins are essential for the body as it requires them from external sources to replenish.

TYPES OF DURIAN

Connoisseurs of the durian fruit have their own favourite types (sometimes called clones) of durian that have their own distinctive characteristics. Following is a guide provided by the Federal Agricultural Marketing Authority (FAMA) official guide to various clones from Malaysia.



↑ (Clockwise from left): Sample various clone types; Agrobazaar Singapore - a hub for Malaysian food and fruit products; 'durian diplomacy' - durian dessert was the highlight at this lunch hosted by the High Commissioner of Malaysia

COMMERCIAL DURIAN CLONES MALAYSIA



D13

- Round and slightly oblong shape.
- Flesh is yellow in colour and has a fine texture.
- Each fruit is 800gm to 1.8kg in weight (1.3kg on average)
- Creamy sweet in taste with a medium aroma.

D24

- Round and oval in shape with short and small spines.
- The fruit husk is creamy yellow in colour, flesh is thick and locule is moderately thick.
- Each fruit is 1kg to 2kg in weight (1.4kg on average).
- Flesh is creamy sweet in taste, soft and compact in texture with a medium aroma.



D88

- Round and oval in shape.
- Flesh is golden yellow in colour.
- Each fruit weighs 1.5kg to 2kg.
- Creamy sweet in taste.



D168

- Fruit is round and oblong with indentation at the end.
- Flesh is yellow and husk is green.
- Each fruit is 1kg to 2.2kg in weight.
- Creamy sweet in taste, with a strong aroma and a fine texture.

D197 (Musang King)

- Fruit is round and oval in shape.
- Flesh is in perfect yellow colour, shiny and thick.
- Each fruit is 1kg to 4kg in weight.
- Creamy sweet in taste, slightly bitter and sticky.
- Its flesh has a strong aroma with a very fine texture.



KIM HONG

- Fruit is round and slightly oblong.
- Flesh is in perfect yellow colour, shiny and thick.
- Each fruit is 1kg to 2.2kg in weight (1.4kg on average).
- Creamy sweet and slightly bitter in taste.

XO

- Fruit is round in shape, with short and small spines.
- Flesh is pale yellow in colour and shiny, with a fine texture.
- Each fruit is 1kg to 3kg in weight.
- Creamy sweet, slightly bitter and gassy taste.



Federal Agricultural Marketing Authority (FAMA)
Ministry of Agriculture and Agro-Based Industry

FAMA Point Building, Lot 17304, Jalan Persiaran 1, Bandar Baru Selayang, 68100 Batu Caves, Selangor Darul Ehsan.

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10 FACTS ABOUT AGROBAZAAR MALAYSIA

You'll Fall in Love with

1. We have the first durian cold room
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3. We allow you to sip your coffee and eat your durians together (C'mon, which air-conditioned café in the world allows that!).
4. We hand pick and carefully select the BEST grade fruits and produce from Malaysian farms for you.
5. We collect the produce straight from the farm and present them FRESH to you.
6. We ONLY sell HALAL products, foods, drinks and dishes (so EVERYONE can eat confidently!).
7. We create a serene, calm, 'kampung' like ambience amidst the bustling city (so you don't have to travel far just to eat fruits by the roadside under the blazing hot sun or spend a bomb at the spa) for you to experience healthy living and a relaxing atmosphere.
8. We offer homegrown and home-roasted artisan coffee at a fraction of the price you normally pay.
9. We bring you ONLY THE MOST AUTHENTIC FRESHNESS from the farm to your plate.
10. We practice LOCAVORE values where the fruits and produce brought to you are grown within 100 miles radius. Less travel means MORE Values, MORE Nutrients, MORE Savings. Only the Freshest AND the Most Authentic for LOCAVORE Living!

#TasteLifeFresh

Agrobazaar
MALAYSIA



KL-SG HSR TO STRENGTHEN Socio-Economic Ties

THE MALAYSIAN GOVERNMENT, WITH THE AIM OF TRANSFORMING THE COUNTRY INTO A HIGH INCOME NATION BY 2020, ARMED ITSELF WITH THE ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION PROGRAMME IN 2010. AS PART OF THIS AGENDA A KEY AREA OF FOCUS WAS TRANSPORT—INTRINSIC TO BETTER LOGISTICS AND GATEWAY LINKAGES FOR GOODS AND PEOPLE—THE SG KL HIGH SPEED RAIL LINK IS A HIGH-PROFILE PROJECT AIMED AT ENHANCING COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN MALAYSIA AND SINGAPORE

Three primary modes of transport—air, rail and road, along with an intercity rail network, presently service the Kuala Lumpur-Singapore route. Between 2007-2011, the routes that serviced the Southern Corridor HSR mounted a huge growth in terms of passenger-km of travel, with the total travel market growing from 5.47 million passenger-km to 7.45 million passenger-km.

Little wonder then that the government has worked out a plan to address the issue of enhancing connectivity on this route as quickly and as painlessly as it was feasible, in the light of the fact that with traffic continuing to surge on the route between the two countries, congestion was assuredly going to become an even greater problem to handle in the foreseeable future. The Causeway is already under immense pressure as the demand well exceeds capacity by 33 per cent. Traffic is expected to carry on escalating at a rate comparable to GDP growth of Malaysia-Singapore, at an average 3-5 per cent, even though in the long term growth rates are expected to start tapering off,

in line with expectations for a maturing market, with an average growth of 3.2 per cent per year from 2011-2060, with a market of 251 million passenger trips by 2060.

The construction of the Kuala Lumpur-Singapore High Speed Rail is aimed at reducing travel time between Kuala Lumpur and Singapore to 90 minutes—to be achieved by strengthening the link between the regions two most wired-up economies. The construction of the HSR is aimed at also opening up and rejuvenating Peninsular Malaysia's smaller hubs, with linkages to the two major metropolises by the medium of an efficient and safe mode of transport.

A BROADER FRAMEWORK

The SG-KL High speed rail link, expected to be operational by 2020, is to be an alternative public transport service between Malaysia and Singapore. In a broader framework this integral link between the two nations who have been close partners for over 50 years in their drive for a better life for their people, will

also 'meet growing demand, catalyzing economic growth and enhancing long term economic competitiveness while improving the quality of life of its people'.

THE NETWORK

It is proposed that the HSR will run along the coastal belt via Seremban, Ayer Keroh (Malacca), Muar, Batu Pahat and Nusajaya in Johor. The terminus in Singapore will be in Jurong East, which is to be redeveloped as a second Central Business District and as a new gateway to Singapore. Its community facilities will serve Jurong residents, HSR passengers and visitors.

GIVING AN EDGE TO A SOCIO-ECONOMIC AGENDA

Time saved is money in the bank for businesses and this high-profile project has an important part to play in enhancing the flow of people and business between Malaysia and Singapore. "Leveraging on the HSR line, socio-economic development will also been enhanced along the HSR corridor", reveals a government press release.



Ritz-G5 celebrates anniversary

IN SINGAPORE WITH A STUNNING EVENING RECEPTION



On Wednesday 12 August 2015, leading Brazilian real estate developer, Ritz-G5 celebrated its third year of successful operation in Singapore with a glittering evening reception.

The anniversary was celebrated by a prestigious, invitation-only event held at the stunning Shangri-La Hotel in Singapore.

Senior members from the global Ritz-G5 teams (based in Singapore, Brazil and the UK), treated guests to an outstanding dinner reception with first class entertainment and high calibre speakers.

The event included a number of distinguished guests: Ambassador of Brazil in Singapore, Luis Fernando de Andrade Serra and his wife Mrs Rosana Serra; Deputy Senator of the Federal Republic of Brazil, Mr Jean-Paul Prates; Professor Macro Nobrega; CEO of Ritz-G5, Mr Luiz Fernandes; Founder of André Elali Law Firm, Mr André Elali; Managing Director of Ritz-G5 in Asia, Mr Arun Rama; General Manager of Ritz-G5, Mr José Henrique Azeredo; and Business to Lawyers in São Paulo, Mr Rubens Gaspar Serra.



An estimated of 1,000 investors, affiliates and professional suppliers were in attendance. The audience was truly international with guests arriving from Singapore, Brazil, UK, Thailand, Malaysia and Philippines.

Ritz-G5 has launched five (5)

projects; Palm Springs, Majestic Village, Residencial Currais Novos, Costa Azul and Airtropolis in Asia and three (3) have been completely sold out.

Ritz-G5 is proud to announce that the Palm Spring investors are receiving in batches their final exit payout.



MALAYSIA CULINARY TRAIL

A VERITABLE MELTING POT OF CULTURES AND CULINARY TRADITIONS, MALAYSIA'S GLITTERING CAPITAL OF KUALA LAMPUR OFFERS VISITORS A DELIGHTFUL SAMPLING OF THE COUNTRY'S RICH AND VARIED SPECIALITIES

By tradition a poor man's meal, Char Kway Teow', is today the top of the pops and can be enjoyed in restaurants, eateries and homes across the length and breadth of Malaysia. To the uninitiated this dish is 'stir-fried rice cake strips'—its name rooted in the Hokkien words 'char' (fried) and 'kway teow' (flat rice noodles) — the base ingredient which is stir-fried over very high flame in soy sauce (which could be light or dark), prawns, shelled cockles, bean sprouts, Chinese chives and eggs. If you had this in a Chinese home, the ingredients would be stir-fried in pork fat with crisp croutons of pork lard. By all accounts Penang's char kway teow is the best of the best, for its taste and originality. The gourmet version, found in Ipoh, Penang, Taiping and even the Klang Valley, can also be had with seafood, crab meat and even duck eggs. In Kuala Lumpur head for Madam Kwan's (Jalan Ampang 420/421, 4th Level, Ramlee Mall, Suria KLCC), in Penang try the Lam Heng Cafe (185, Macalister Road, Penang).

Malaysia's popular laksa is slowly making inroads abroad as well. This delicious coconut-based curry soup is embellished with tofu puffs, fish sticks, shrimps, cockles and the like. Vietnamese coriander and a spot of chili paste (sambal) give the soup a nice twist. There are many variants of the traditional laksa—Sarawak Laksa, Johor Laksa, Kelantan Laksa, Penang Laksa — all definitely worth a try.

The great Malaysian-Chinese contribution to the tables and kitchens in the country is the ubiquitous Chicken Rice — to be found at hawker markets, specialty restaurants and hole-in-the-wall eateries. It comes with a serving of sliced cucumbers, homemade chili sauce and pounded ginger or optionally garlic and dark soy sauce. Try the Hainese version which is aromatic and yellow-hued— an 'oily rice' accompanied by a bowl of soup and additional chicken intestines, gizzards, livers etc, which is gobbled up swiftly by all. In Melaka, it comes in the form of Chicken Rice Balls – the rice shaped as golf ball-sized

delicacies served with steamed chicken.

Many have lost their hearts to Malaysia's yummy Nasi Briyani— a delicious rice-based concoction, which is aromatic, exotic and wholesome, all in one breathe. Using Basamti rice as a base is a popular option, blending well as it does with the flavours and textures of meat, fish, eggs and vegetables— under the influence of judiciously added spices. A good nasi briyani will features a slew of spices with ghee as the cooking medium. Meat-based ones will feature either beef, chicken, mutton, fish or shrimp. Accompaniments include a yogurt mint chutney, korma curry, boiled egg and salad.

As you wander across many regions, sampling the food on offer you'll be on a journey of discovery in every sense. Along the way, do try the local specialties in food and beverages and of course snacks, chutneys and pickled fare too. Again the unique hawker market culture is a great way to explore new dishes and enjoy the bonhomie of a family and friends get-together.

SELAMAT DATANG TO **MALAYSIA** YEAR OF FESTIVALS



Welcome to Malaysia, a melting pot of many cultures and traditions. 2015 is the Year of Festivals where great and vibrant events are lined up for you. Be part of our endless celebrations. See you in Malaysia.

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Malaysia
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DESTINATION MALAYSIA

An Adventure and Ecotourism Bolt Hole

TOURISM ACROSS THE WORLD IS BROADENING ITS CANVAS TO ENCOMPASS AN EVEN GREATER VARIETY OF HOLIDAY EXPERIENCES. THE DESIRE FOR FRESH, NOVEL AND HIGHLY SATISFYING JOURNEYS OF DISCOVERY ARE TAKING TRAVELLERS TO SOME OF THE MORE REMOTE, UNSPOILT, UNPOLLUTED AREAS OF THE WORLD'S MOST POPULAR HOLIDAY DESTINATIONS.

Away from the bustling urban charms of Malaysia is a wonderland of prehistoric forests, sacred mountains and remote communities which have been serving up marvellous holidays to a dedicated band of adventure seekers. Today, what was once a small trickle, is slowly becoming a widening stream of holidaymakers from around the world, looking to get lost in this dream world from where one returns energized and full of wonder.

While the charms of Kuala Lumpur, Penang, Melaka, Cameron Highlands, Sabah and Johor are enshrined in holiday lore, travellers are looking to plunge into a world of high adventure on offer in Sarawak and Borneo to journey down paths less travelled and discover for themselves worlds of infinite charm and untrammelled beauty.

THE BEST OF BORNEO

The melting pot of many cultures, Sabah also has a rich tradition and folklore to captivate visitors. One of the 13 states, Sabah is situated on the Island of Borneo and is widely acknowledged as the best of Borneo. Blessed abundantly with nature's diversity, unique cultures, fun adventure, beautiful beaches, and fantastic cuisines for the adventurous taste buds, the state of Sabah has it all, right from world's largest flower to world's top dive site. Sabah is accessible by air via Kota Kinabalu International Airport (KKIA), one of the busiest terminals in Malaysia serves the state. As the capital of Sabah, Kota Kinabalu (KK) is the main entry point to Sabah, and several budget airlines operate flights to



and from major ports in the world.

One of the most well-known and popular destinations in Sabah is the tallest mountain Mount Kinabalu, tallest mountain in Southeast Asia. Mount Kinabalu, is located at 1,585 metres above sea level and is the main starting point for the summit trail for a stream of hiking and trekking buffs from around the globe. The entrance to the mountain begin at Kinabalu Park. It covers an area of 754sq km and is made up of Mount Kinabalu, Mount Tambayukon and the foothills. The mountains have a fascinating geological history, taking 'just' a million years to form. The mighty Mount Kinabalu is actually a granite massif that was later thrust upwards through the crust of the surface of the earth..



Other must-see attractions include the legendary island of Sipidan. It is widely proclaimed as one of the world's top dive sites. Rare and unique sightings of turtles, hammerhead sharks, whale sharks, manta rays and eagle rays are often enjoyed in the crystal clear waters. However, due to its extreme popularity and to conserve the environment, only 120 permits are issued in a day. Hence, tourists need to plan and book in advance.

There are also many conservation centres of species which are on the verge of extinction and need conservation. The Kinabatangan River also houses some of the rare and endangered species such as proboscis monkeys, crocodiles and orang-utans.

Following a nearly three-month closure, the Mount Kinabalu Timpohon Trail will once again open its doors to adventurers, amateur climbers, outdoor enthusiasts and trekkers, starting September 1 until November 30. However, climbers are only permitted to climb up to Laban Rata and only 100 climb permits will be issued daily by Sabah Parks, as opposed to the 193 previously.

To all others who will miss their chance, there is more news to gladden the heart. Climbers awaiting to hoist their flag and conquer the Mount Kinabalu summit, from Laban Rata to Low's Peak Summit can rejoice as the New Mount Kinabalu Summit trail is expected to be ready by December 1. Sabah Tourism, Culture and Environment Minister Datuk

Seri Masidi Manjun has said that he hoped Mount Kinabalu would be ready to accept climbers' right up to the summit by December. "Geo-technical studies are being conducted on the trail to the summit while repairs are being done in the less sensitive stretches. We, however, have not decided anything on the fees yet," he told The Rakyat Post, one of the local dailies.

However, due to damages caused by the recent earthquake that occurred on June 5, the Mesilau Trail is closed indefinitely until further notice as paths remain inaccessible. Therefore, all

climbs will be using the Timpohon Trail exclusively. An experimental climb was recently held for climbers which included rangers, mountain guides and members of the media. This was to experience the hike up in the aftermath of the earthquake. Signs of the damage to the trail became obvious from 1,500m upwards, where a section of the route had fallen off the cliff. A new path has been carved out for climbers. Mount Kinabalu attracts thousands of both professional and recreational climbers from across the globe every year.



Visitor Arrival by Nationality Jan - June 2015

Country of Origin	Statistic Value
Asia	399,800
Oceania	17,631
Europe	39,589
North America	13,794
Middle East	1,072
Others	14,572
Malaysia	1,072,371

Source: Sabah tourism board



SINGAPORE TV DRAMA TO PROMOTE SABAH TOURISM

Singapore's MediaCorp will promote Sabah Tourism through its 30-episode family TV drama titled 'Beyond Words'. The episodes will be shot by MediaCorp in Sabah and also help bring in more tourists from the island country. The 30-episode series featuring popular Singaporean artists would be shot in various locations, including in and around Kota Kinabalu.

"Sabah has many beautiful places that would make a very good location for shooting TV drama. I hope MediaCorp will continue to choose Sabah for its future shootings," said Sabah Tourism Board chairman Datuk Joniston Bangkuai. He said over 25,000 Singaporeans visited Sabah last year and about 10,000 tourists from the country had spent their holidays here as of July this year. "The shooting, which is expected to take a month to complete, would not only attract visitors from Singapore but also other countries where the drama will be aired," said Bangkuai. 'Beyond Words', where 20 episodes will be shot mostly at the Sutera Harbour Resort, and another 10 at several locations in Kota Kinabalu, will be on TV starting March next year.

SOURCE: BORNEO POST

UNSPOILT BARIO AND BA KELALAN

Another splendid representation of an off-beat Malaysia experience are the remote expanses of unspoilt Bario and Ba Kelalan, best explored on a fabulous wilderness trek which is hugely rewarding for adventure buffs. Botanical marvels, incredible wildlife and glorious natural vistas are just some of the allurements along the way. These virgin forests are the lungs of Sarawak and Borneo and everything must be done not to tamper with that.

Inhabited by the Lun Bawang tribals the remote settlement of Ba 'Kelalan (910m) comprising nine villages (Buduk Nur, Long Langai, Long Lemumut, Long Ritan, Long Rusu, Pa Tawing, Buduk Bui, Buduk Aru and Long Rangat) lies in Sarawak's Bario Highlands, just four km away from the Indonesian border area of Kalimantan. Though connectivity needs to be improved with the outside world (the government has already allocated funds for infrastructures development) the warmth and kind hospitality of its people running many homestays (ever on the rise now as tourist movement increases here) more than makes up for the discomforts. Drained by the Kelalan River, the plateau is pretty much the world of this community.

Production of salt from subterranean salt deposits in the hills nearby, rice, apples, mandarin oranges and vanilla farming are the primary source of livelihood of the people here. Tourism is on the rise and Ba'Kelalan now also sports a nine-hole golf course. Apple growing was introduced here in the 90s and the first Apple Fiesta in Malaysia was held in Ba'Kelalan in 2007. Ever since it's been one of Malaysia's top tourist attractions; this annual event is held around the Apple Lodge located in Buduk Nur village. The emerald paddy fields of Buduk Bui and Long Langai villages produce some of the region's most prized Highland Adan Rice.

The village of Bario lies in the Kelabit Highlands and is even more remote. The only way to get here is by flight, a 4WD bumpy ride or a jungle trek. The brisk air on the plateau, the vast silences of the stunning beauty surrounding you, the pristine environs and the friendly Kelabit tribal offering their hospitality from some very basic guesthouses, transport you to another world, another time.

From vantage points you can catch glimpses of twin peaks of Bukit Batu Lawi. Once you're done with exploring the immediate environs of the village which includes taking a 4WD ride down on mud tracks to explore Pa' Mada village and its

scenic surrounds, picnic at leisure by the river, with the added attraction of some fishing, wildlife spotting; the short trek to the nearby village of Pa'Lungan Village, while looking out for botanical wonders such as orchids along the way, comes highly recommended; you can even pencil in a thrilling trek to the Debpur River for a longboat ride to Pa' Umor Village. You will enjoy a most rewarding experience on the one hour trek to Prayer Mountain to catch the sunrise and splendid views of the Pulong Tau National Park Range.



EXPLORING RURAL MALAYSIA

One of the most popular activities around the twin villages of Barrio and Ba'Kelalan is the marvellous 3-4 day trek from Barrio to Ba'kelalan via Pa'Lungan (or vice-versa). Both villages offer exciting experiences in one of Malaysia's remotest expanses. The Kelabit Highlands lie in Sarawak's north eastern corner. Marked by gentle inclines this incredibly picturesque plateau allows for treks that are not too strenuous. You will pass through beautiful forestlands, enjoy views of lovely mountains, encounter a fabulous wealth of botanical delights as you progress, making overnight halts at friendly villages and longhouses scattered along the rain forest. The mandatory local guides speak English, are knowledgeable and friendly and make the entire experience a joyful one. For the more experienced, there's also the allurements of a strenuous climb of the hallowed Mount Murud (highly popular as a pilgrimage hub also) and Bukit Batu Lawi— but this needs some serious and advance planning. Hardcore adventure buffs can also opt for week long trails to Long Lellang or Lio Match longhouses on the Upper Baram and the Barrio Loop.



The gateway to the highlands is the coastal city of Miri, from where most Twin-Otter flights on (MASWings Rural Air Service) bring you to Ba'kelalan and Barrio airports. On terra firma expect to move around in 4WD which the locals are quite adept at manoeuvring.

This is the heartland of rewarding experiences in remote Malaysia. If you are travelling in the region between September 24 to October 3, 2015 you might enjoy attending the popular Borneo Bird Race 2015, at which birding buffs and itinerant travellers from 10 different countries arrive to travel over 1000km

for stalking over 200 species of avifauna with binoculars, bird books and cameras. Their travels will take them through myriad landscapes with habitats ranging from coastal belts, freshwater swamps, lowland forests, and of course the lush and ancient forested hills and mountains of Sabah, Sarawak and Brunei. The one with the longest list of bird sightings will be awarded the prestigious "Bornean Bristlehead Cup". In the Sarawak leg of the race, contestants will travel in the high biodiversity of Gunung Mulu National Park. This exercise is also very critical in documenting the birdlife of the region.



MALAYSIA

A STUDENT-FRIENDLY NATION

FRIENDLY IMMIGRATION LAWS MAKES IT SIMPLE AND CONVENIENT FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS TO PURSUE A TERTIARY EDUCATION IN MALAYSIA'S NETWORK OF UNIVERSITIES, UNIVERSITY COLLEGES AND COLLEGES THROUGHOUT MALAYSIA.

Education has been earmarked as Malaysia's New Key Economic Area, to spearhead the country's transformation into a high income nation. The Ministry of Education is committed to building the capacity and strengthening the infrastructure of the Malaysian Education system, with clear strategies outlined in the Malaysia Education Blueprint (Higher Education) 2015-2025, towards strengthening Malaysia's position as an international and reputable education hub.

Friendly immigration laws makes it simple and convenient for international students to pursue a tertiary education in Malaysia's network of universities, university colleges and colleges throughout Malaysia.

EDUCATION MALAYSIA GLOBAL SERVICES

Education Malaysia Global Services (EMGS), a wholly owned company of the

Ministry of Education, was established as a One- Stop-Centre for international student services.

In managing the One-Stop-Centre for International Student Services, EMGS believes in the continuous upscaling of process efficiency and embraces new technology. Prioritising customer service and transparency in its operations, EMGS has introduced value added services, mobile and online applications that provide convenience, support transparency and enhance operational efficiency. EMGS works closely with the Ministry of Home Affairs, the Malaysian Immigration Department and the Ministry of Education towards providing convenient, fast and professional services to global students who choose Malaysia to live, learn and grow.

EMGS's scope of services include:

- Management and Processing of International Student Applications for a Student Pass/Visa to Public and Private Higher Education Institutions in

Malaysia and the processing of the i-Kad International Student.

- Management and Processing of the annual renewals of Student Pass/Visa and i-Kad International Student.
- Enhancing the Management of International Student Welfare & Engagements.
- Promoting Malaysia as an International Education Hub, globally.

KEY OBJECTIVES

One of the key objectives of EMGS is to lead the worldwide promotion of the Education Malaysia brand, towards achieving the target of 200,000 international student enrollment at Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) in Malaysia by year 2020.

International Education Exhibitions: EMGS works with the network of HEIs in Malaysia and leads and coordinates efforts to showcase Malaysia's higher education products and institutions at international exhibitions in South East Asia, South Asia, Central Asia, Middle East, China, Sub-Saharan Africa and new markets.

Industry Engagements: EMGS connects with the Professional Recruitment Agents and associations like the International Consultants for Education & Fairs (ICEF) in communicating Malaysia's value proposition in the higher education space, all towards building reputation and recognition for the Education Malaysia brand.

EMGS has frequent engagements with the foreign High Commissions, Embassies and Consulates in Malaysia on updates in processes, requirements related to the Student Visa application and international student welfare.

EMGS coordinates business development and promotion efforts with the Malaysian High Commissions, Consulates and Education Malaysia offices overseas.

Raffles American School

Think



Raffles American School (RAS) is a learning community that empowers students to achieve their academic and life potential. At RAS our faculty gives every student the opportunity to grow in Problem Solving/ Thinking Skills. Students will demonstrate the ability to think analytically, critically, creatively, collaboratively and independently. RAS students are challenged to acquire the four School Wide Learning Outcomes; Organization/ Research Skills, Communication Skills, Character Interpersonal Skills and Problem Solving Thinking Skills.

Create

The RAS campus is designed as a holistic learning environment where educational facilities are interwoven with athletic and performing arts spaces to evoke creativity in thinking, communicating, researching and interpersonal skills. Students will demonstrate the ability to take responsible risks in their learning and approach problems with creativity and perseverance in state of the art facilities including a performing arts theater, 25m and 50m swimming pools and school planetarium.



Succeed



RAS serves students Pre-K-12, focusing on an American standard base curriculum, fully accredited by WASC (Western Association of Schools and Colleges), that culminates in Advanced Placement Studies (AP). RAS students earn a US High School Diploma which satisfies entrance requirement to Universities worldwide. Student success is facilitated through collaboration with parents, a balanced focus on intellectual, emotional, physical, and social progress and a profound belief that all students can learn.

RAFFLES AMERICAN SCHOOL

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MALAYSIA BAGS IMTJ AWARD FOR 'MEDICAL TRAVEL DESTINATION OF THE YEAR- 2015'

LAUDED FOR ITS EXCELLENCE IN PROMOTING INBOUND MEDICAL TOURISM, MALAYSIA'S WORLD-CLASS HEALTHCARE OFFERINGS BASK IN THE GLOW OF THIS PRESTIGIOUS ENDORSEMENT

This year's glittering annual International Medical Travel Journal (IMTJ) Awards 2015, was held at the Royal Garden Hotel in London on 15 April. Attended by the who's who of the global travel trade and medical community, this year's ceremonial event was of particular significance for Malaysia. The country's medical tourism initiatives were given even greater endorsement when Malaysia was chosen for this year's 'Medical Travel Destination of the Year' Award.

The prestigious award was received by the Chief Executive Officer of Malaysia Healthcare Travel Council (MHTC), Sherene Azura Azli. Established in 2009 MHTC, falls under the Ministry of Health to develop and promote Malaysia's healthcare travel industry. The recognition conferred on winners of the award underpins their all-round excellence in promoting inbound medical tourism, it verifies statistics of yearly growth in medical tourists served and also reflects the evidence of high levels of patient satisfaction and coordinated activities that delivered an increase in medical tourism.

The 13 Awards conferred during the event fell under four categories: Healthcare Provider and Agency, Marketing, Quality and Service and Overall Achievement. Malaysia's private hospitals were recognised too for their contribution to the country's medical tourism agenda. Gleneagles Hospital, Kuala Lumpur walked away with the award for 'Excellence in Customer Service', the Imperial Dental Specialist Centre bagged the award for 'Best Quality Initiative of the Year', Ramsay Sime Darby Healthcare was conferred the award for 'Best Travel Website of the Year',



the Beverly Wilshire Medical won it for being the 'Centre International Cosmetic Surgery Clinic of the Year' and Imperial Dental Specialist Centre picked up another award for being the 'International Dental Clinic of the Year'.

In addition to this, its travel website catapulted it the top as the 'Most Highly Commended Hospitals', along with the Prince Court Medical Centre, Kuala Lumpur, which got it for its customer service.

Comparison of Healthcare Travellers between 2007-2013

Year	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
No. of Healthcare Travellers	341,200	374,000	336,000	393,000	583,000	672,000	770,000
Increments vs LY	15%	10%	-10%	17%	48%	15%	15%

Recently ranked number three worldwide for its healthcare system by International Living in its 2014 Global Retirement Index, Malaysia is now well-known and a much sought-after destination for medical tourism in the world. This is seen from the overall increase in medical tourists coming to Malaysia from 583,000 in 2011, 671,000 in 2012 to 768,000 in 2013

Source: <http://www.mhtc.org.my/en/statistics.aspx>



ASEAN DAY AT INDONESIAN EMBASSY

on 28 November 2014



ASEAN LUNCH & DURIAN DIPLOMACY

Malaysia High Commissioner, H.E. Datuk Husni Zai Yaacob, hosted a lunch for ASEAN ambassadors at Agrobazaar Malaysia on 19 August 2015. They were joined by Singapore's Ministry of Foreign Affairs officials: (MFA) H.E. Chee Wee Kiong (Permanent Secretary), H.E. Peter Tan Hai Chuan, Deputy Secretary, Southeast Asia & ASEAN and H.E. Lim Hong Huai, the Director General, Southeast Asia I Directorate. Altogether nine ASEAN ambassadors (except LAOS) attended: H.E. Dr Andri Hadi (Indonesia), H.E. Haji Awang Saifullah bin Haji Awang Mansor (Brunei), H.E. Cheth Naren (Cambodia), H.E. Htay Aung (Myanmar), H.E. Antonio A. Morales (Philippines), H.E. Nguyen Tien

Minh (Viet Nam) and H.E. Bansarn Bunnag (Thailand). In his welcome remarks to guests, H.E. Datuk Husni said the lunch was a good opportunity for the diplomats to catch up on the latest developments within ASEAN. He also conveyed to the Singapore MFA officials his congratulations on Singapore's 50th Anniversary. H.E. Chee Wee Kiong also congratulated Malaysia on the organisation of the "very successful" ASEAN Ministerial Meeting held recently and he also shared about the major issues discussed at the KL meeting.

On a lighter note, the High Commissioner also said the event was also a good opportunity to promote Malaysian food (the main course was 'Nasi Kerabu') and fruits including durians. Indeed, the 'King of Fruits' proved to be a major hit with the diplomats.



Photos: Syed Jaafar Alkaff



RED CROSS INTERNATIONAL BAZAAR AT NGEEN ANN CITY CIVIC PLAZA

on 15 March 2015



ESS DINNER AT SHANGRI-LA HOTEL

on 5 May 2015



THREE NATIONS MERDEKA! RIDE

MORE THAN 100 BIKERS CELEBRATED MALAYSIA, INDONESIA AND SINGAPORE NATIONAL DAYS ON THE MOVE!

Malaysia, Indonesia and Singapore's National Days fall close to one another – all within August. This sparked a wonderful idea by Indonesia Ambassador H.E. Pak Andri Hady to ask well-known charity motorbike organisation, Riders Aid Singapore, to hold a joint celebration event to mark the independence days.

The event got on the road on 23 August 2015, with riders from all three countries fully-decked in their riding gear astride (many) in their Harley Davidsons, some Honda Goldwing cruise bikes and large sportsbikes. Bikers from the Harley-Davidson Brothers group in Singapore, were joined by the Harley-Davidson Chapter of Indonesia and Malaysia Harley Owners Group. A total of 108 motorcycles were involved in the event.

The riders also dedicated the Merdeka ride to Malaysia High Commissioner, H.E. Datuk Husni Zai and H.E. Pak Hadi as they are expected to end their diplomatic assignments in Singapore this year.

A special route that started from the Indonesian

Embassy at Chatsworth Road where Malaysia Deputy High Commissioner Kamsiah Kamaruddin and Singapore Minister for Foreign Affairs and Minister for Law K. Shanmugam were also on hand to see the bikers off. The ride passed Orchard Road and took in famous Singapore iconic sites such as the Istana, the MacDonald House, Cathay Cinema and on to the Padang, Pasir Panjang Road and the first stop at Reflections at Bukit Chandu (a World War II Interpretive Centre at Pepys Road). Next was a Pit Stop at the Harley Davidson Showroom at Leng Kee Road for refreshments before continuing on Marina Bay Sands, the Sports Hub and Arab Street.

The last stop of the 3 Nations Merdeka Ride was to the Agrobazaar at Sultan Gate where the Malaysia High Commission played host to the bikers with a 'Durianlicious Party.' The tri-nation celebration is a historic first to be done for all three countries and having the largest group of bikers ever assembled. It truly showed the spirit of ASEAN and being good neighbours practiced literally at the street-level and on a people-to-people basis!

Photos: Mohd Salleh BMG



A Toast to Flourishing Friendship

Even as Singapore celebrates its 50th anniversary, friends and families on the Malaysian side of the border rejoiced 50 years of bilateral relations. The relationship between the two countries is based on synergy and mutual growth. Indeed, the lion's share of credit goes to the tireless efforts of leaders on both sides. However, the deep-rooted kinship goes beyond government policies and business prospects. Both countries have divided their sorrows in challenging times and shared in the happiness of good times.

A case in point is the annual Leaders' Retreat, in which both heads of state hammer out issues that are of importance to the two countries. The recently concluded retreat, held in Singapore on 5 May 2015, saw historic announcements and tie-ups such as the ramping up of the High Speed Rail Link, quicker immigration clearance, and heightened cooperation in defence, among others. Another significant commitment was made on the "Friendship Bridge" — a proposed third link between Singapore and Johor, in addition to the Causeway and Tuas Second Link. Such initiatives will have a positive domino effect on the people working and living in Malaysia and Singapore. In this issue, we also focus on how Malaysia is handling its responsibility as ASEAN Chair at a critical point for ASEAN, which is in the midst of enhancing the economic integration of its member countries.

With Singapore hosting a significant number of Malaysian diaspora, we have featured an exclusive interview with the Chairman of the newly-launched Malaysian Association of Singapore. Also highlighted in the issue is



the close connection and kinship between the countries, including in food, culture, arts, music and cherished traditions. Furthermore, this issue hopes to bring attention to investment destinations within Malaysia and the far-sighted vision of its leadership, which is working towards transforming Malaysia into a high-income nation by year 2020.

It has been a pleasure and privilege working with Datuk Husni, and a great learning experience for us. This publication is the culmination of a remarkable team effort, and his expert guidance. We would also like to convey our gratitude to the High Commission's Counsellor / Head of Chancery, Mr Nur Azman Abdul Rahim, for his unfailing support throughout the publishing process.

Opportunity Malaysia congratulates Singapore and all its friends on its Golden Jubilee year. To borrow a quote from PM Najib - Happy 50th birthday, Singapore and we look forward to toasting many future anniversaries!

Malaysia Tourism Calendar Highlights 2015



↑ **Malaysia International Gourmet Festival (MIGF) 2015**

SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER

37th World Arm Wrestling Championship

Berjaya Times Square, Kuala Lumpur
25 September 2015 - 04 October 2015

Malaysian Open Kuala Lumpur 2015

ATP 250 World Tour, Stadium Putra, Bukit Jalil, Kuala Lumpur
26 September 2015 - 04 October 2015

Malaysia International Gourmet Festival (MIGF) 2015

Various venues throughout Malaysia
01 October 2015 - 31 October 2015

Mount Kinabalu International Climbathon - Adventure Series

Kundasang, Sabah 17 October 2015 - 18 October 2015

NOVEMBER - JANUARY 2016

Malaysia Urban Retreat Festival Hotel Pullman

Kuala Lumpur Bangsar.
13 November 2015 - 15 November 2015

Asia Pacific Ironman Langkawi

Langkawi, Kedah 14 November 2015

1Malaysia Year-End Sale

Throughout Malaysia. 14 November 2015 - 03 January 2016

RFC-Rainforest Challenge

Seremban, Port Dickson, Gemas, Kuala Pilah & Jelebu (Negeri Sembilan). 27 November 2015 - 07 December 2015

UNESCO World Heritage Exhibition

Sultan Abdul Samad Building, Kuala Lumpur.
18 October 2014 - 31 December 2015

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E-mail: mtpb.singapore@tourism.gov.my
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2016

2011



MDIS Residences@Stirling, Singapore (2011)

2007



MDIS Tashkent, Uzbekistan (2007)

2005



MDIS Campus, Singapore (2005)

1956



SAMTAS (MDIS), Singapore (1956)

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