



“  
*As it was with Malaya, so it can be with Malaysia. With trust in Almighty God, unity of purpose and faith in ourselves, we can make Malaysia a land of prosperity and peace.*  
 ”  
**Tunku Abdul Rahman,**  
 Sept 16, 1963

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## SELANGOR GATEWAY TO ASEAN

FEATURE

Opening Ceremony

**KUALA LUMPUR** – The Selangor International Business Summit (SIBS) series returned for its second edition this year from September 6 to September 16 at the Malaysia International Trade & Exhibition Centre (MITEC).

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The Selangor International Business Summit is an integral part of Selangor's transformation into a regional Smart State.

Azmin Ali

”

# IIUM Presidency – Much Ado About Nothing?



**KUALA LUMPUR** – Whilst furor ablated over embattled Education Minister Dr Maszlee Malik over his recent appointment as the International Islamic University Malaysia (IIUM) president, some parties felt that credit must be given where it's due.

After constantly being criticized by numerous parties from all corners, another fellow scholar had risen up to defend Maszlee by telling his critics to 'move on' and 'get a life' rather than fixating themselves on the Simpang Renggam MP.

"Move on you guys, get a life. You are just finding excuses to throw bricks at Maszlee Malik," said Universiti Teknologi Malaysia (UTM) Prof Dr Awaluddin Mohd Shaharoun in a lengthy heartfelt Facebook posting.

In defending Maszlee, Awaluddin had applauded the former who still managed to travel to Sarawak for a work visit to schools in rural areas despite the escalating controversies surrounding his appointment.

The Engineering and Technology lecturer expressed dis-

appointment over the lack of media coverage on Maszlee's Sarawak visit compared to the sensationalized IIUM appointment, despite the earlier issue being more vital towards the future development of the national education system.

"This to me is more important, more critical to our country's future and more newsworthy than taking up a no allowance honorary post as president of a university with all the bricks being thrown in his way by ungrateful and blinkered critics braying to taste his blood."

"Yet his visit to Sarawak barely made the headlines. This is what I fail to understand. What is happening to this beloved country of ours? We amplify and glorify controversy and never appreciate real change even when it is about to happen," he said.

Awaluddin said that Maszlee was the first Education Minister who truly adopts a low key hands-on approach in witnessing first-hand what can be done to improve the education standards of rural schools, minus

the fancy treatments.

"No flowers, specially choreographed children shows, (or) special lunch to greet him. Just the grim reality of inspecting weather beaten and leaking roofs, termite-eaten classrooms, smelly toilets, long-house standard teacher living quarters and what not," he said.

Despite lesser coverage, Maszlee had been updating his Facebook continuously throughout his trip to Sarawak schools, where he was seen inspecting the poor living conditions of the schools.

It was reported that his ministry has already set aside RM2.7 billion under the 11th Malaysia Plan (11MP) for fixing schools and building new ones, until 2020 on top of proposing additional funds to fix schools and teacher's quarters for Budget 2019.

Awaluddin was the latest prominent figure to defend Maszlee's appointment, after Pahang Ruler Sultan Ahmad Shah, IIUM Rector Prof Dzulkipli Abdul Razak, academician and CEO of the International Institute of Advanced Islamic

Studies (IAIS) Malaysia Mohammad Hashim Kamali, as well as countless other scholars.

Maszlee's appointment as the 7th President of IIUM, replacing Rais Yatim had drawn criticism from netizens, student groups, opposition leaders as well as leaders within Pakatan Harapan coalition itself, fearing that it will generate conflict of interest.

Maszlee, a former lecturer of IIUM, became the third education minister to assume the president's post since the university's establishment.

Its first president was Hussein Onn, followed by Anwar Ibrahim when he was the education minister in the 1980s, who was then succeeded by Najib Razak in 1998 who was then the education minister.

"By following past precedent, the poor guy (Maszlee) had to take up the post and now faced the bullets from his critics who never seem to be satisfied with all explanations," said Awaluddin.

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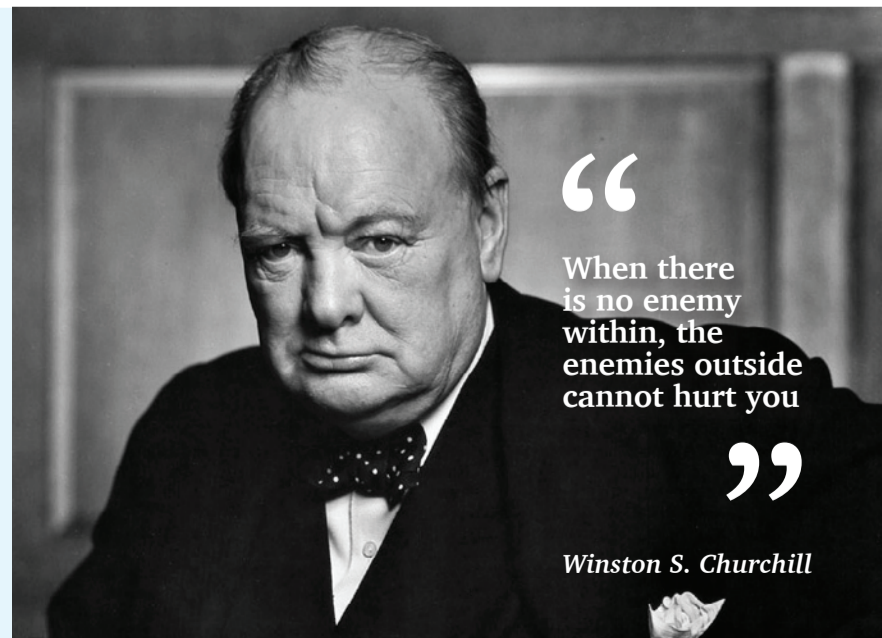
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“  
When there  
is no enemy  
within, the  
enemies outside  
cannot hurt you  
”

Winston S. Churchill



# Azmin Saved Malaysia RM 120 Billion

By  
**Syauqi Jamil**

**KUALA LUMPUR** – While his political rivals are busy trying to gain leverage over him on petty matters, embattled Economic Affairs Minister Dato' Seri Mohamed Azmin Ali apparently had other things on his mind-like saving Malaysia's economy. On September 5, Malaysia and Singapore had finally reached an official conclusion on suspending the Kuala Lumpur-Singapore High Speed Rail (HSR) project to May 31, 2020. The bilateral agreement made headlines, mainly focusing on Malaysia bearing SGD15 million (roughly RM45 million) of abortive costs due contractual delays which needs to be paid by Jan 2019.

These are not compensation to be paid to Singapore as many have misinterpreted, but instead existing provisions in contracts that incur some costs for delays, where the amount is the cost for the two year deferment.

It was explained that postponing the project will require a change in the business model, where an escalation of the project cost will incur, on top of maintaining confidence in investors.

In fulfilling the HSR bilateral agreement, Malaysia will also have to bear the agreed cost incurred by Singapore, should the HSR project did not proceed come May 31, 2020.

However, what many didn't realise from the joint signing of the bilateral side letter with Singapore, was that Azmin had managed to spare Malaysia from the burden of financial commitment of RM120 billion over the next two years.

According to Azmin's Policy Officer, Yin Shao Loong, the RM120 billion breaks down to a combination of RM55 billion estimated capex for the core project and RM65 billion estimation in government guarantees for train procurement, maintenance as well as train systems maintenance over 30 years.

Therefore, with the new HSR deal, the Malaysian government had managed to avoid making these big financial commitment for the coming two years.

The deal was sealed after Singapore Coordinating Minis-

ter for Infrastructure and Minister for Transport Khaw Boon Wan and Azmin had exchanged legal documents to vary the HSR Bilateral Agreement based on the new understanding.

The historic event was witnessed by Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad, Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Wan Azizah Wan Ismail and Singapore Deputy Prime Minister and Coordinating Minister for National Security Teo Chee Hean.

The seemingly relieved Azmin in a joint press conference afterward said that such mutual understanding between the two nations could not have been possible without the spirit of bilateral cooperation.

However, it was clear that such agreement would not have been made possible without hard work, the right negotiation skills and economical insight poured by Azmin and his team.

Renowned American diplomat, politician and activist Robert Sargent Shriver Jr once said that "My parents had always preached the virtues of hard work. But hard work is one thing, economic struggle is another."

This can be seen through the tireless negotiations between

poning the project between three to four years, based on the current economic condition of the country.

Azmin said Khaw and his team had viewed Malaysia's situation positively, which then lead to a second meeting in Kuala Lumpur that took place just a week later.

Khaw had returned with a proposition where Singapore was willing to consider postponing the HSR project for a period of only a year.

With that, Azmin then brought the matter to be discussed with the Cabinet before having to go back to Singapore afterwards, in an attempt to appeal that the Republic nation consider postponing the project for a longer period of time.

Ultimately, both nations had managed to meet in the middle, agreeing to the win-win deal of deferring the 350km project for two years.

With the new deal, the HSR Express Service is expected to commence for public use by Jan 1, 2032 instead of the original commencement date of Dec 31, 2026.

Azmin previously announced that the estimated project cost was actually revealed to be at RM110 billion, after discovering numerous 'hidden costs' which wasn't made public by the previous government.

The amount varies significantly compared to Barisan Nasional (BN) administration's previous estimated cost of between RM54 billion and RM74 billion.

“  
*Azmin saved  
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the financial  
burden of  
RM120 billion  
over the next  
two years*”

Azmin and his team with Singapore, which had went back and forth for weeks.

Azmin shared with reporters, his first encounter with Khaw in Singapore, in Aug 11, where he had presented the mandate of the Malaysian Cabinet.

It was revealed that the Cabinet had initially sought to post-

# Smoking Ban Extended

**KUALA LUMPUR** – Thinking of picking that outside seat in restaurants so you can smoke and dine at the same time?

Smokers may be disappointed to learn that there may be no more lighting up of cigarettes in restaurants, even when dining outside.

The Health Ministry in Dewan Negara last September 6 has announced that they are pushing all open air restaurants to be gazetted as non-smoking areas from December onwards.

This was said to be part of the government's initiative to protect the public from the effects of secondhand cigarette smoke.

Deputy Health Minister Dr Lee Boon Chye said the decision is Malaysia's commitment as a member state to the Framework Convention on Tobacco Control and adheres to the guidelines under Article 8 of the World Health Organisa-

tion (WHO).

"Those who go against this rule can be fined RM10,000 or jailed not more than two years," he was quoted by Malay daily newspaper Utusan Malaysia.

Besides this, Lee had also proposed that the Parliament's smoking room be shut down completely in October, in an attempt to turn the entire August House a smoke-free zone.

The proposal would be carried out if there were no objections that would crop up on the matter.

Currently, there are 23 areas designated smoke-free under the Control of Tobacco Product (Amendment) Regulations 2017.

These include entertainment centers, theatres, elevators, public toilets, air-conditioned eateries, public vehicles, airports, government premises and any area used for the purpose of assembly.



## Selangorian to Rule USA

**T**he East-West Centre based in Hawaii, USA has selected the Managing Director of Smart Selangor Delivery Unit, Dr Fahmi Ngah as the sole Malaysian participant to an 11-day Smart Cities Regional Urban Leaders Exchange (RULE) Programme from the 12th to 22nd September in the United States of America.

The Regional Urban Leaders Exchange Programme is a dialogue and study tour programme designed to engage urban leaders in a multi-country, interdisciplinary examination of critical concerns and innovative solutions to building resilient and sustainable cities. The focus of the program is on key issues and best policy and practice options to address economic, technological and environmental challenges, promote social equity and more effective governance systems and respond to non-traditional security issues arising from global

“

I feel privileged to have been selected into this programme, and in a way, this shows that the Smart Selangor Smart State programme is already being recognised as one of the main developing smart cities programme based on global standards.

”

threats that could severely impact urban areas worldwide.

RULE brings together urban leader and policymakers, urbanisation experts and practitioners, civil society representatives, business leaders and officials from private foundations and international development institutions from cities throughout Asia, the Pacific and the United States. Participation in this program is by invitation only.

Other selected participants from Asia includes Juwanda Ajun (ICT advisor to the Mayor of Bandung), Tamanna Rahman (Officer Capital Development Authority Bangladesh), Rajendra Jagtap (CEO Pune Municipal Corporation, India), Merlina Panganiban (Head of Urban Development, Makati City), Setiaji (Head of Jakarta Smart City Management Unit and Imran Zarkoon (Director General of Quetta Development Authority, Pakistan).



# Innovate to Lead

CEO Liew Choon Lian's MDT Innovations is one of the fastest growing tech companies in the region

By  
**Cecelia Alphonsus**

**SUNWAY** – MDT Innovations is one of Asia's top 25 IoT companies currently earning RM200 million in revenue of which 95% is export driven. The company, since it ventured into RFID (radio frequency identification) and the wireless sensor market in 2005 has grown its revenue from RM1 million to RM10 million, then onwards to RM100 million to where it stands today at double that figure. CEO Liew Choon Lian hopes the upward revenue trajectory will hit RM1 billion by 2025.



When other tech start-ups were feeling the bite of the economic downturn, MDT Innovations wasn't feeling the pinch as according to Liew they have consistently ploughed 10 to 15 percent of their revenue into Research and Development to stay ahead of the market.

"Overseas markets are more receptive to new technology and have bigger budgets so it is easier to penetrate compared to focusing on the local market."

"China alone has tremendous purchasing power and high new technology adoption rate," says Liew.

## Research driven

According to Liew, they have dedicated their research works to the development of IoT components as well as enabling the seamless integration of auto-identification, information

and communication technologies to ensure that their products are more creative and future needs driven.

To date, their products have established markets in the United States, Japan, China, Indonesia, India, Philippines, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Australia, the Middle East, some ASEAN countries as well as South Africa.

Liew, who was recently nominated OP of the Year by the alumni of the Royal Military College exemplifies the school's motto "Serve to Lead" in the way he strategically manages the growth of MDT Innovations.

His corporate mission is "to ensure each and every one his staff become millionaires." This is what drives him to innovate new technology and why R&D and Intellectual Property are at the core of the company.

Judging by the number of awards and accolades they have garnered; the strategy appears to be paying off. MDT Innovations created history when they emerged 12th in Deloitte's Fast 500 Asia Pacific 2011 listing, the highest ranking an ASEAN company has ever achieved. They also swept 10 Asia Pacific ICT awards between 2006 and 2013 and not to mention two Prime Minister Best of the Best awards in 2007 and 2013. It doesn't end there, in 2008 they hooked the Red Herring Asia 100 Award and the following year tackled the Red Herring Global 100 award and won. MDT Innovations also consecutively swiped the Best Brand Asia and Best Employer Awards four years in a row

from 2014 to 2017. In 2016, MDT Innovations found itself alongside the big names in tech when they were chosen by Internet of Things (IoT) Business Platform Asia to be among one of the top 5 vendors behind Microsoft, IBM, Google MDT and Cisco.

## GLOBAL PLAYER

Without a doubt MDT Innovations is truly a Malaysia Boleh company that has soared in the global market as a pioneer enabler in IoT technology and systems applications in the region.

It is easy to see why as Liew comes across as a very smart and vibrant man who is continuously thinking about the future and how to anticipate next generation needs. The wealth of experience he has acquired working overseas, certainly holds him in good stead as he applies the same working culture he was exposed to in Japan and the US to his team here in Malaysia.

The global working standards of the company is apparent as earlier this year, MDT Innovations was selected as one of the top 25 companies in APAC and a few months ago cinched the Frost & Sullivan IoT Company for 2018.

Soft-spoken, humble but with a great sense of humour, Liew isn't one to blow his own horn. During the interview, he left his colleagues to share about his past experiences before adding one or two vital details about himself. After graduating, Liew worked in Manhattan for five years with Fuji-Keizai USA. He went on to become a successful industry analyst and strategic



**Liew Choon Lian**  
Founder, Chairman & CEO of  
MDT Group of Companies

“The wealth of experience he has acquired working overseas, certainly holds him in good stead as he applies the same working culture he was exposed to in Japan and the US to his team here in Malaysia.”

consultant in New York, San Jose and Tokyo, working for corporations like NTT, Panasonic and NEC before being appointed as the General Manager of Worldwide Operation at Matsushita (Panasonic) Corporation, based in Fujisawa. In the early nineties, not many people would have known that our very own Malaysian was a top market analyst that was involved in the success of the then Palm Pilot and Zaurus working alongside the likes of Jeff Hawkins and Donna Dubinsky from Palm Computing and Maeda of Sharp Corporation.

It was when Liew was involved with Matsushita Display Monitor Division that he brought the embedded design and manufacturing technologies to Malaysia, making it a hub for analyses, design, sourcing and procurement of key components of flat-panel displays, wireless communication technologies and RFID.

## SERVE TO LEAD

MDT Innovations now specializes in IoT smart devices design particularly wireless sensor gateway, active RFID tag and NFC in SIM card solutions. They also focus on IoT application development, system implementation and project management as well as providing software and hardware for multi-platform systems. Key business activities include IoT embedded systems as well as providing turnkey application solutions for the systems.

A few examples of flagship applications include Industry 4.0 – Work in Progress Tracking, LINOTAG Connected Apparel Suite where yarn was adopted as Wireless Antenna in Apparel and Smart Trolley to connect and control trolleys wirelessly. Coles Australia is currently using this system to trace, track and provide relevant analytics within the supermarkets and its chains. Others include Automated Vehicle Management System, SchoolTrac School Surveillance and Security System, People-Asset-Analytics and Intelligent Impact Monitoring.

It is clear that their innovative spirit is certainly leading the way in serving the community, industries and even countries. However, Liew is not resting on his laurels as yet as in order to scale up the business to hit the target of RM1 billion revenue in 2025, the company is looking at strategic partnerships and even an IPO to turn things up a notch.

This budak boy, as alumni of RMC are fondly called has certainly come a long way in serving to lead not just nationally but globally.



# Malaysian Uprising

By  
**Batrisyia Jay**

**M**alaysia has not one, but two national days to commemorate the country's independence from the British empire. Malaysia day is celebrated to commemorate 16 September 1963, a time when the former British colony of Singapore and the East Malaysian states of Sabah and Sarawak, came together to be united as the Federation of Malaya to create the Malaysian Federation.

Unity was what made the formation of the Malaysian Federation achievable, and once again, as proven by the May 9th 2018, elections the 14th Malaysian General Election (GE14), once again triumphed against all odds. Ergo, unity is the very essence of a latest Malaysian film called "Rise: Ini Kalilah", a film that was inspired by events of the GE14 that is set to be released on September 13, 2018, in conjunction with Malaysia Day.

"Rise: Ini Kalilah" follows the lives of six Malaysians on the days leading up to the GE14 on May 9. Its multi-racial cast includes Remy Ishak, Mira Filzah and Sangeeta Krishnasamy. Directed by Saw Teong Hin, Nik Amir Mustapha and Prem Nath, the production for the RM2, 000, 000 film was completed in just three months and was shot in various locations across Malaysia, Singapore and Britain.

The film is the brainchild of executive



producer Fred Chong, who was driven by the stories of how Malaysians came together for GE14. Intrigued by the story behind this inspirational film, the Selangor Journal team paid a visit to the man of the hour to gain a better insight of the inner workings of "Rise: Ini Kalilah".

"We are blurring the reality of the actual events and the story, thus giving you a combination of the true workings of GE14 and something which is fictional," says Fred while explaining the conceptualization of the film. "Rise: Ini Kalilah" follows the pattern of blockbuster films such as "Titanic" and "Pearl Harbour", which were based on the event itself, yet had characters that were fictional. "The movie is fictional, but at the same time it is inspired by all the social media postings, videos, and particularly the documentaries on how Malaysians on Facebook were trying to come up with a campaign called 'Carry your vote home'" says the established songwriter, music producer and multi-genre creator.

## First Spark

The idea for the film first sparked within Fred after hearing of an Indian producer who was keen to produce an epic story of Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad after the Pakatan Harapan victory on May 9. "I thought it was a good idea, but I personally felt that the story

should be about the people instead.”

Fred was still toying with the idea of having a GE14 inspired story that featured the rakyat when he came across the Astro Awani’s documentary called “Amazing Race”. “I saw how people in Hong Kong, London, Australia, and even Dubai were talking about how they had to bring their votes back, and the way they had grouped together and used social media to stay connected motivated me to have a story that highlighted how the people had fought and stayed together using digital and social media.”

Being the Group Chief Executive Officer of WebTVAsia Sdn. Bhd., a local digital media company, Fred had wanted the story to revolve around how people are connected in a digital world and how social media played a very important role in the access of information to the people. “Through the access of information on social media, we are informed, and when we are informed we tend to make wise decisions,” says Fred.

### Character Development

Despite being the first time a change of government is seen in the country, this election had showed no bloodshed and has had a very peaceful transition. “It had made my story less dramatic, but I had never wanted to dramatize it in the first place,” he says. The main reason for this peaceful transition was due to the army and police force, which was why Fred had created a policeman character, played by actor Remy Ishak, as one of the main characters of the film.

Apart from a policeman, the film features the stories of a student in London rushing to deliver postal votes as well as a businessman in turmoil over politically-motivated criminal charges. Fred had thought that it would have been too straight forward if the character of the student in London were to be too fixated on bringing the votes back, as was shown in the documentary that he had watched. “So I twisted it a bit and created a character that is young and unpatriotic, someone who is not interested in the elections, which was half of the population of Malaysia at the time,” he says. However, witnessing the struggles of the people and friends around her who are upholding their rights and gathering the votes, the character, played by actress Mira Filzah, was pushed to become the person who had in the end, championed the whole process of bringing the votes home. The film also features actress Sangeeta Krishnasamy, who takes on the role of a teacher at a school struggling for funding as well as Jack Tan, who stars as a Malaysian working in Singapore who is finding a way to come home to vote. “I saw footages on the news of how hundreds of thousands of Malaysians who’s living in Singapore trying to come back and how they were told that they didn’t have to come back as it’s not important and such, so I thought that’s an important element to include in the story and come up with the character,” he says.

Being a Sabahan, Fred had also wanted to include a representation of a Sabah story to the film, and thus created

a character, played by Jen Chiah, who is a struggling reporter fixated on documenting the events leading to May 9.

### United Team

“Rise: Ini Kalilah” had three leading directors in the country on board, Saw Teong Hin (Puteri Gunung Ledang), Nik Amir Mustapha (Terbaik Dari Langit) and Prem Nath (Vere Vazhi Ille). The film specially features dialogues in English, Malay, Mandarin and Tamil as it revolves around the perspectives of three Malaysians of Malay, Chinese and Indian descent.

All three directors despite being committed to other projects somehow found time to take this on. Fred required three directors of different ethnicities as he wanted the movie to be a multi-lingual

“*We went ahead and pushed a few boundaries and it had passed through the board. Some of it were police corruption, irregularities on the election day itself and other electoral issues,*”

movie that features conversations in different mother tongues “I wanted real-life conversations between a husband and wife, father and son in their own home using their own language,” says Fred.

The filming of “Rise: Ini Kalilah” had started in early July of this year. Within three weeks the team had completed shooting in London, Singapore and Kuala Lumpur. Two weeks later, the trailer for the film was launched at a press conference, and within one month, the film was completed and has been set to be released on September 16, 2018. “It’s the fastest turn around project for all of us, but at the same time, we never wanted to compromise the quality, that’s why we made sure we had experienced directors and crews, from pre-production to principal shooting to post-production, so we were really happy with the outcome. We pulled together a really dedicated team that had made everything possible.”



### Challenges

Having only a period of three weeks to film an entire movie is a challenge in itself, but the Executive Producer admitted that one of the main challenges of “Rise: Ini Kalilah” was facing the Film Censorship Board of Malaysia. Fred had taken the safest route to ensure the film comes out with the least bit of controversy as possible. “That and the fact that our timing was limited made me not take as many chances as I would’ve wanted to and had to self-censor myself, so I feel that a lot of the things the audiences wanted to see wasn’t in the film,” he says.

Having had a bad experience with the board over his previous film, “Banglasi”, a film directed by Namewee and scheduled for release on 30 January 2014 had been banned as the film dealt with Malaysian politics; Fred had no intention for history to repeat itself.

Filming a movie based on the events of GE14, the team consulted various legal bodies to ensure that lines had not been stepped on, “Our lawyers said that if we were to portray a political flag in the movie, we can be sued among many other things, so you don’t see those logos or flags in the film,” says Fred. “We however got permission from the media to show real footages and videos of the event, footages that have been uploaded to YouTube, so the artistic choice of the film was that during the shooting a different flag was portrayed, but in the real live footages and news, the actual flag of the political parties are shown,” he says. “Hence, it wasn’t as perfect as I would’ve wanted it.”

Despite the setbacks, Fred and his team still pushed some boundaries for the film. “We went ahead and pushed a few boundaries and it had passed through the board. Some of it were police corruption, irregularities on the election day itself and other electoral issues,” he says, admitting that he would have pushed more boundaries had he been given the time.

### Tribute to the people

The title theme song is a cover of “Sejahtera Malaysia” and is sung by Malaysian songbird Dato’ Sheila Majid. “Music is a very important element of the movie, and we were very fortunate to have Dato’ Sheila Majid sing the soundtrack,” expressed Fred. The patriotic soundtrack was originally performed by Mohammad Rauzan Alwi.

“This film is a tribute to the real heroes who had made May 9 possible; I wanted them to witness these and invited them for the premiere.” Fred feels fortunate to have had Maria Chin, Ambiga, Marina Mahathir, Hannah Yeoh who all came as well including Gobind Singh Deo and Syed Saddiq who were present for the premiere launch.

Set to be released on September 13, 2018, “Rise: Ini Kalilah” tells the journey of six individuals crossing paths on the eventful day that was May 9. Be sure to catch it in the cinema to relive the moments of how Malaysians of various ages and from around the world had struggled and come together to vote for a new Malaysia.



# SIBS - Gateway to ASEAN



**Y.B. Dato' Teng  
Chang Khim,**  
Selangor State  
Government  
Senior  
Executive  
Councillor

Continued from cover page...

The 10-day summit features three main events, the '4th Edition of Selangor International Expo', the '2nd Edition of Selangor ASEAN Business Conference' and the 'Selangor Smart City and Digital Economy Convention 2018'.

The opening ceremony was attended by Dato' Menteri Besar of Selangor Amirudin Shari and graced by His Royal Highness Tengku Amir Shah ibni Sultan Sharafuddin Idris Shah Al-Haj, Raja Muda of Selangor also visited exhibition booths at the Selangor International Expo 2018.

Dato' Teng Chang Khim, Executive Councillor of the State Government of



Selangor said during the official opening ceremony that the state of Selangor is the Gateway to ASEAN and is an aspiring Global Trading Hub. "Selangor is a significant centre-point for domestic and international businesses that would like to build or strengthen their presence in ASEAN and SIBS is the perfect platform to do just that."

He added that the summit allowed for local and foreign multinational corporations, small and medium enterprises and entrepreneurs operating in the F&B industry to showcase their products and services, and act as a strategic avenue for marketing, collaborations and partnerships, while providing exposure and information on the latest technological developments globally.

Following its astounding success in 2017, which saw a total of 22,000 visitors and generated RM204.2 million in transaction value, SIBS has received support from MBI Selangor as Co-Organisers and MATRADE as an Endorsing Partner.

In his keynote speech, Amirudin said that the success of the summit in 2017 has strengthened Malaysia's profile on the global map as one of the most important business partners in the ASEAN region.

"I believe the summit has successfully positioned Selangor as a solid trading platform where the community is able to gather with a common purpose, to do business, all in one place, and that is Selangor, the Gateway to ASEAN," he said.

He added that the Golden State of Selangor has proven itself time and again, to be a formidable bastion of economic

I believe the summit has successfully positioned Selangor as a solid trading platform where the community is able to gather with a common purpose, to do business, all in one place, and that is Selangor, the Gateway to ASEAN

**Amirudin Shari**  
Menteri Besar of  
Selangor





# Selangor Targets RM12 Billion

**I**nvest Selangor Bhd is aiming RM12 billion total investment this year, mainly from the services and manufacturing sectors.

Of the total RM12 billion, RM7 billion worth of investments are expected to come from the manufacturing sector, while RM5 billion will account for the services sector.

Selangor Menteri Besar Amirudin Shari had said 60% of Selangor's economy is made up of the service sector, while the manufacturing sector represents 23%. "The manufacturing division is one of the core businesses in the state apart from healthcare, transportation and machinery," said Amirudin.

**INVEST  
SELANGOR**  
THE GOLDEN STATE OF MALAYSIA

Amirudin had also added that the state recorded RM800 million investments for the first half of 2018.

"There is a greater interest now. We hope to score higher (investments) than last year, but it depends on how we implement the strategy," CEO Datuk Hasan Azhari Idris said after the launching ceremony of Selangor International Business Summit (SIBS) 2018 in Kuala Lumpur.

Last year, Selangor attracted RM5.59 billion of direct investments in the manufacturing sector, as well as RM4 billion in the services sector, particularly from the world's largest furniture retailer, IKEA, with an establishment of a regional supply chain centre in Pulau Indah, worth RM908 million. The services and manufacturing sectors contributed 59.5% and 29.5% to Selangor's gross domestic product in 2017 respectively.

This year, Selangor has garnered about RM1.8 billion of investments to date, primarily following Invest Selangor's trade mission to Japan in January.

"We had a good start with the investment tour in Japan. Those investments that we have secured involve companies in the logistics, packaging, machinery and aerospace sectors," Hasan Azhari said.

Japan remains the state's largest foreign investor with 13 projects worth RM533 million, followed by Singapore with 18 projects at RM439 million and China with five projects worth RM282 million last year. Foreign investments accounted for 40% of the total investment in Selangor, while 60% of the investments were local.

The second edition of the SIBS this year is projected to attract RM250 million in transaction value, up 22% from last year's RM204.2 million.

prosess and progress in Malaysia. As of 2017, Selangor singularly contributed a massive RM270 billion, or, 23% to the national GDP, with a high annual GDP growth rate of 7.1%. The official launch was followed by an exhibition tour of Selangor International Expo 2018.

With a total exhibition space of approximately 11,000sqm; the expo has attracted a mix of 60% domestic and 40% international F&B brands and features unique business matching offerings for local and international buyers, sighting a diverse mix of exhibitors from Malaysia, Singapore, Philippines, Laos, Indonesia, Vietnam, Brunei, Thailand, India, Africa, Egypt, Netherlands, Germany, New Zealand, Spain, Italy, England, Finland, Iran and Taiwan as well as the European Union.

The conference component of the summit, Selangor ASEAN Business Conference 2018 also kicked off with a lunch plenary session featuring Dr. Ong Kian Ming, Deputy Minister of International Trade and Industry (MITI) who delivered a keynote address on the topic "Future of Malaysia in ASEAN".

The conference also featured a second lunch plenary session the following day with Dato' Seri Mohamed Azmin Ali, Minister of Economic Affairs, who delivered a keynote address on the topic "Economic Aspirations of Malaysia in ASEAN".

A gala dinner was hosted on the second day of the summit at the Renaissance Hotel, Kuala Lumpur. The event was attended by Dato' Teng Chang Khim as well as Raja Shahreen Bin Raja Othman, CEO of MBI Selangor.

"Looking at the Selangor International Expo 2018, I am pleased to see a real multi-national participation, with a record of 23 countries across the world," said Dato' Teng.

He added that over the next couple of days, the summit is looking forward to seeing more participations from visitors in the expo and to immerse themselves in the ASEAN experience, as well as trying their hands at experiencing other food cultures from around the world.

"When you look at the Selangor ASEAN Business Conference 2018, we have heard engaging panel discussions around real-life challenges and opportunities that business players from different countries and regions encounter on a daily basis," he said.

The second day of the two-day Selangor ASEAN Business Conference had seen a total number of 1500 participants, which is a remarkable increase of 50% compared to the conference held last year.

The conference features over 50 industry leaders from ASEAN and beyond and offers delegates a holistic conference experience that focuses on tackling current issues and opportunities that impact the business landscape in ASEAN and had seen the participation of approximately 20 speakers.

The summit is not complete without the excitement of Smart City and Digital Economy Convention to be held from September 13 to September 15, 2018.

The convention is one of the largest in this region featuring forums and exhibitions on innovation, technology and e-commerce. "Industrial 4.0, AI (Artifi-

Selangor is a significant centre-point for domestic and international businesses that would like to build or strengthen their presence in ASEAN and SIBS is the perfect platform to do just that

cial Intelligence), machine learning, blockchain, cryptocurrency and IoT (Internet of Things) will be among the jargons used for the next few days," said Dato' Teng.

"The more people understand the importance of trade and the magnitude it brings to the socio-economic landscapes globally, the more we are able to drive its agenda, especially within the Asean Economic Community. To achieve this, we will have to work together as a united single market."



## Malaysia Strengthens Investments in ASEAN

Malaysia needs to take advantage of its open economy status and strengthen the investment within the Asean-member countries amid the global trade tension, Deputy International Trade and Industry Minister Dr Ong Kian Ming said.

"I don't think the trade tension between the US and China will come to an easy solution. Even with the negotiations that are being taken by both parties, the tension is still running high and affects the predictability of the US government," said Dr Ong at the plenary lunch session held on the first day of the Selangor International Business Summit (SIBS) 2018 in Kuala Lumpur.

Ong addressed the concern of many observers that trade tensions between

the United States and China could escalate into a full-blown trade war, with ramifications not only for bilateral economic ties but also for the global economy.

"In a short run, Malaysia will definitely be affected even though we are the second most open economy in the Asean as our trade-to-GDP ratio is more than 100%," he said.

Ong added that the non-tariff barriers remain as one of the major hurdles in solidifying the linkages between countries in Asean.

"Many of the trade investors to Asean countries are experiencing the non-tariff barriers, which is what we are trying to address with our Asean counterparts at the moment," said Ong.

Ong had urged businesses to step forward and work with the government to

address this issue in order to accelerate the efforts to reduce and eliminate the non-tariff barriers.

He had also said that the people-to-people and business-to-business relationships, as well as the exchange of ideas between Asean countries need to improve. "This is where business and even trade can thrive."

Ong stressed that Malaysia needs to be more opened to welcome various regional champions from other countries in Asean such as Thailand, Singapore and Indonesia to have a general exchange of ideas on businesses and trades on a global level.

"Without the exchange of ideas from these various non-governmental agencies, it'd be difficult for us to play a role in pushing Asean into the next level."



## Selangor F&B Industry goes Global

The official launch of the Selangor International Business Summit (SIBS) 2018 was followed by an exhibition tour to Selangor International Expo 2018 and was graced by His Royal Highness Tengku Amir Shah ibni Sultan Sharafuddin Idris Shah Al-Haj, The Raja Muda of Selangor who had paid a visit to the exhibition booths at Selangor International Expo 2018.

The expo features unique offerings such as the business matching programme and hosted buyers programme to connect with top F&B brands across the region.

The F&B focused expo had also featured a host of exciting side events organised by supporting partners of SIBS 2018 for members of the public.

The side events include the 'Selangor Latte Art Throwdown of the Year 2018' organised by Malaysia Specialty Coffee Association and Barista Guild Asia, 'Piala TTAM (Battle of Teh Tarik

2018' organised by Teh Tarik Association of Malaysia, and 'Live Gastronomic Experience' organised by Professional Culinaire Association.

As it is, F&B is one of the investment pillars in Selangor, together with life sciences, machinery and equipment, electrical and electronics and transport equipment sectors.

Dato' Teng added that the summit allowed for local and foreign multinational corporations, small and medium enterprises and entrepreneurs operating in the F&B industry to showcase their products and services, and act as a strategic avenue for marketing, collaborations and partnerships, while providing exposure and information on the latest technological developments globally.

"The SIBS 2018 is a big summit who has successfully rounded up a lot of exhibitors, mainly hailing from the F&B industry. If SIBS 2019 were to have an expo that focuses on food and the F&B

line, then we will without a doubt be joining it for a second time," says Aw Wai Kheong, Managing Director of IB Com Inc., a full-service designer, planner and fabricator of commercial kitchen company in the Philippines that focuses on kitchen equipment and small wares.

At the moment, IB Com Inc, one of the many exhibitors to join the Selangor International Expo 2018, has been made as a platform to bring in Malaysian food into the Philippines market. "Selangor houses a lot of business opportunity between local and foreign companies, so I feel that it is time for us to build up a bridge from the Philippines to Malaysia by bringing in their products into the Malaysian food market as well," he said.

IB Com is set to bring in investors from the Philippines to Malaysia, particularly the state of Selangor, for this project. "Hence, it will be a dual-purpose business venture between companies from these two countries," said Wai Kheong.

"We joined SIBS 2018 to have a better exposure into the Malaysian market and to find suitable distributors," said Jean P Lacuban, Marketing officer of Central Seafood Inc, a corporate entity in the Philippines that was established in 1999 as a processor and exporter of fresh frozen marine products.

"Our main export is in the US but one percent of it goes into Asian countries such as Hong Kong, Korea, Vietnam. Now we're starting to penetrate the Malaysia market and would like to start with the state of Selangor given its economy that is on the rise," she said.

SIBS 2018 features business matching and international buyers' programmes, in collaboration with 20 commerce as well as industry organisations.

The summit has received an endorsement from the Malaysia External Trade Development Corp, together with Malaysia Airlines Bhd as the official airline partner.

Selangor, dubbed as the golden state of Malaysia, remained the main contributor to the national economy in 2016, with a 22.7% share, ahead of Kuala Lumpur (15.3%), Sarawak (9.8%), Johor (9.4%), Pulau Pinang (6.7%) and Sabah (6.7%).

Invest Selangor will focus on the food and beverage (F&B) industry for the Selangor International Expo this year, encompassing food sciences, technology and services as well as the halal segment.

Back for its fourth edition, the Selangor International Expo 2018 is an F&B trade specific expo that will feature industry players within the F&B industry in ASEAN.

"F&B is Selangor's and the country's strength. For instance, the most sellable Malaysian products in China are of the F&Bs," said Selangor state government senior executive councillor, Dato' Teng Chang Khim, who was also present at the ceremony.



**S**elangor Business School's premier MBA program opens for registration on September 22, 2018.

The 18-month MBA focuses on strategic management, business 4.0, business strategies including international trade, global marketing and international human resource management.

Tuition fees start as low as RM17,325 for Malaysian students and RM26,775 for international students.

Those registered will have the chance to commence the program with just a RM500 Acceptance Fee if they meet certain terms and conditions.

SBS is wholly owned by the State Government and established in collaboration with UNISEL in direct response to concerns brought forward by Azmin Ali, the former Menteri Besar of Selangor, over the absence of a home-grown state-run graduate business school in Selangor to produce graduates who fulfil the requirements and needs of businesses, corporate and public service sectors and who are valuable contributors and leaders at strategic levels.

Interested applicants are invited to their



premises at Menara PKNS PJ from 9am to 3pm with the necessary documentation; IC for Malaysians and passports for international students together with relevant certificates.

SBS participates actively in the advancement of knowledge, diffusion of learning and gaining of competitive advantage in the area of business, corporate and public services management and contributes to shaping the future of business practices.

The SBS MBA program is designed specifically to produce highly skilled and employable graduates equipped to face the challenges of a rapidly changing industrial and corporate world.

## Fortune favors the brave

# Remulti – New O&G Player

**BUKIT JELUTONG** – Selangor-based company Remulti Sdn Bhd is now the sole distributor for valves produced by ALCO Valves Group here in Malaysia. This was announced at the soft launch of the opening of Remulti Sdn Bhd at their newly-opened factory in Bukit Jelutong on August 29, 2018.

The event was officiated by the Managing Director of Remulti Sdn Bhd, Azlie Kemaluddin, alongside the Managing Director of ALCO Valves Group, Sam Crossley.

Remulti Sdn Bhd is a Malaysian private limited company incorporated since 17th May 2016 and is the exclu-

sive stockist/distributor for Graco Inc in Malaysia, a world leader in fluid handling systems and components founded in 1926.

of valves to be done," said Sam Crossley, managing director of ALCO Valves Group. In September 2014, Graco Inc acquired ALCO Valves Group as one of their subsidiary companies. Ever since Remulti Sdn Bhd was incorporated, the company has been their exclusive agent in Malaysia.

"The oil and gas extraction business deals with high temperature and high pressures all the time, hence the safety requirement gets higher, so any leakage from the valves has to be restricted. Our valves are better qualified for this," he said.

By having a local manufacturer here, the period of time to prepare a valve for the end user can now be decreased tremendously. "When an end-user has a problem, instead of telling them to wait 12 weeks, we can now turn around and tell them that the product will be ready in eight hours, that's what we're aiming to do with our partners here," said Sam.

ALCO Valves Group manufactures superior quality valves for supply to the oil and gas industry, from standard products such as Instrumentation, Ball and Needle Valves, to Large Bore Double Block and Bleed Valves (DBB valves).

***The oil and gas extraction business deals with high temperature and high pressures all the time, hence the safety requirement gets higher, so any leakage from the valves has to be restricted. Our valves are better qualified for this***

Graco products are known to move, measure, control, dispense and apply a wide range of fluids and viscous materials used in vehicle lubrication, commercial and industrial settings. Graco serves customers around the world in the manufacturing, processing, construction and maintenance industries.

Remulti is the first Bumiputera Company based in Klang Valley that stores Ex-stock for Instruments & Piping DBB valves with sizing up to 4 inches. DBB valves are sleek and compact making it a perfect choice for Skid Packaging company in Malaysia.

With current set up in Malaysia, the products are brought readily available in their warehouse with the shortest delivery period of 1-2 weeks. The product comes with complete 3.1 certification package and documentation, Installation and Operation Manual (step by step guide) on how to fit our product into our client's Skid System. With more than 100 installed bases in Malaysia, Remulti's products are well known and developed with improved design that complies with type acceptance test (TAT).

Among the activities done at the launch were demonstrations from a couple of service providers including MTVS for their Portable valve testing Equipment, Bumiwangsa for the demo on their Control Panel, and Graco for their demo on pumps. The demonstrations took place using Remulti's valves in their premise in Bukit Jelutong, Shah Alam.



sive stockist/distributor for Graco Inc in Malaysia, a world leader in fluid handling systems and components founded in 1926.

"With an experienced workforce, good engineers and the presence of a good local partner, we felt that Malaysia is suitable for actual manufacture



# A to Z of Connectivity

by  
**Cecelia  
 Alphonsus**  
 Chief Editor  
 Media Selangor



*Atilze Digital is the technological solution for connecting the important things in life*

**KUALA LUMPUR** – Award winning Atilze Digital is making strides in Malaysia and the region with its IoT driven solutions with end-to-end delivery of connected devices, IoT networks and data-driven applications.

Atilze Digital Sdn Bhd, the wholly owned subsidiary of G3 Global Berhad is hailed as one of the Top 25 IoT solutions providers of 2017 and have also clinched the Best IoT Deployment Award at TechXLR8 Asia for the successful deployment of the Smart Agriculture rice farming project in Jawa, Indonesia.

The company is also the IoT solutions enabler for Malaysia's first satellite farm in chili cultivation using the smart fertigation system which is connected by Atilze's Sensor Hub. Apart from that, the company has also enabled Cyberjaya to be the first LoRa (city-wide long range) network connected Smart City in Southeast Asia.

According to Azman Ismail, Product Director at Atilze De-

sign, the "til" in Atilze stands for the "things in life" that Atilze is connecting and impacting with their IoT based solutions. While the company has seen considerable impact from the first phase of its commercial smart fertigation system at the satellite farm in Teluk Panglima Garang, Azman hints at a surprise that is in store for visitors to the Selangor Smart City & Digital Economy Convention taking place at the Malaysia International Trade and Exhibition Centre (MITEC) this September 13 to 15.

So far, Atilze Design has collaborated with MDEC, Axiata and Cyberview in South East Asia and ASEAN on a number of notable projects encompassing Precision Agriculture, Intelligent City, Smart Building and Connected Vehicles.

Azman says that at this year's Selangor Smart City & Digital Economy Convention, the company is exploring opportunities with local councils and government to scale their IoT solutions.

## Solution to Food Security

*The potential of Precision Agriculture in enhancing Malaysia's food security.*

**A**ccording to the Global Food Security Index (GFSI) 2017 report, out of 113 countries, Malaysia's ranking has dropped to 41 and its GFSI score fell by 3.2 points from 69.4 in 2016 to 66.2 in 2017. Malaysia is now amongst the top 10 countries with the highest drop in GFSI scores.

Earlier this year, Minister of Agriculture and Agro-Based Industry, Salahuddin Ayub in an interview with Bloomberg stated that our current rice stockpile can only sustain the nation for 22 days compared to six months in Vietnam and ten months in China.

Datuk Seri Mohamed Shafie Mammal, President of UNI Malaysia Labour Centre attributes Malaysia's drop in the GFSI score and ranking to deterioration in the index's "availability" score.

"Although Malaysia has enough poultry, fishery and eggs supply, we are still relying on imports from foreign countries in various food commodities such as rice, fruits, dairy milk, beef and grains."

Norhashim bin Kamisan, a local agropreneur, expressed concerns over large volumes of chili imports from Vietnam as one of the challenges of marketing locally grown chili. A concern that Salahuddin is well aware of as part of his agenda is to reduce the country's dependence on food imports and to strengthen food security.

Precision agriculture is a means to help farmers increase their yield, protect the environment and improve the socio-economic status of communities. A customizable smart fertigation system as designed by Atilze Design for the cultivation of simple crops like chili, cucumbers, brinjals is a gateway to increase participation in the agricultural sector as it offers higher yields and lower entry barriers through a fully automated system that costs approximately RM28k per unit presently. However, with economies of scale, the cost per unit can be further reduced with the participation of more farmers.

Smart farming solutions are just the thing to revitalize the urban farming movement to turn gardens, rooftops and balconies into producing food. IoT enabled fertigation systems offer cleaner, simpler and automated farming that doesn't require large plots of land and soil thus encouraging urban Farmville enthusiasts to embark on growing food.



# NOW EVERYONE CAN FARM

*Used properly Precision Agriculture can contribute to reduced operational costs and higher yield.*

## TELUK PANGLIMA GARANG

– Nestled along a narrow village road in Teluk Mengkuang lies a one-and-a-half-acre satellite chili farm in the midst of oil palm plantations. The satellite farm is the first smart fertigation chili satellite farm in Malaysia, located 2km away from the farm produce collection centre of the Farmers Association of Kuala Langat. Utilizing the smart fertigation system by Atilze Digital, this satellite farm has according to reported data improved production yields while reducing operational costs.

According to agropreneur, NorHashim bin Kamisan, who has been utilizing Atilze's smart fertigation system for two seasons since February 2017, "the cost for fertilizer has decreased by 10 to 20 per cent and instead of two farmhands, I only need one person per acre of land now, reducing my labour cost by 50 per cent."

Recently, one of NorHashim's farms made it into the Malaysian Guinness Book of Records for producing a record 23 tonnes of chili in a day via the smart fertigation method.

The satellite farm in Teluk Panglima Garang was launched in April 2018 and is a collaborative project between Malaysia Digital Economy Corporation (MDEC) and Atilze Digital Sdn Bhd.

“

The smart fertigation system was able to yield 3,650 kg of chilies compared to 3,000kg harvested using traditional fertigation methods from one planting cycle.

”

**Azman Ismail,**  
Product Director,  
Atilze Digital Sdn Bhd.

At the core of the smart fertigation system is Atilze's Sensor Hub which is designed for rapid Internet-of-Things (IoT) deployment and comes fully customizable with an open IoT hardware platform.

"This sensor hub here at the satellite farm, is Kuala Langat customized," says Azman Ismail, Product Director at Atilze Digital.

"The whole dashboard is in the Kuala Langat dialect, to make it easy for locals to understand the simple vocabulary used to state the action that is needed for them to take."

The satellite farm project is to create an innovative supply chain that establishes a reliable and continuous sales channel for young agropreneurs. Produce is harvested and sent to the collection centre in Kuala Langat. According to Azman, the receipt issued at the collection centre is even recognized by local banks as proof of income.

Participants in the project are housed in colourful mounted container chalets to manage the system on the farm itself. According to Azman, the participants are selected from the B40 group and most, if not all have no prior farming experience.

The smart fertigation system utilizes Atilze's IoT platform to collect data from various sensor

points which records a variety of information from humidity to soil conditions, the platform then compiles, analyses and distributes actionable information to the end user via a dashboard which can be accessed through a laptop or smart phone. If there is no 3G or 4G networks available, Atilze's LoRa gateway provides low-power and long-range wireless protocol network to allow sensors and connected objects to collect and send data back to an IoT data cloud server for processing.

Azman is excited that this new satellite-powered agricultural management platform will empower agropreneurs and stakeholders by using IoT to increase yield and quantity.

"The smart fertigation system was able to yield 3,650 kg of chilies compared to 3,000kg harvested using traditional fertigation methods from one planting cycle."

"Traditional fertigation also takes up a lot of time to manually irrigate the plots as well as to fertilize it. With Atilze's smart fertigation system, the process is automated."

An acre of land yields approximately 4,000 polybags of Sakata 461 chili or Kulai 461. A variety that is favoured for cultivation via the fertigation method as it is more durable and doesn't rot fast.

# Forest City – impasse to be resolved

**JOHOR BAHRU** - The issues relating to foreigners not being allowed to buy residential properties at the multi-billion-ringgit Forest City project in Gelang Patah needs a cordial solution for it to be resolved, says the Johor state government. State Consumerism, Human Resources and Unity Committee chairman Dr S. Ramakrishnan hopes the matter would not be dragged on as it would send the wrong message to foreign investors.

“We need to come up with solutions for all, and personally I’m confident the matter will be resolved,” he said. At the moment there has yet to be a decision on reducing foreign ownership quota in regards to the Forest City project but discussion on the matter is heading in that direction.

Housing and Local Government Minister Zuraida Kamaruddin recently said the ministry would meet the Johor state government and the Forest City project management soon, including meeting the local real estate developers to get their input on ownership policy involving foreigners.

“For now, our key concern regarding this project is the government policy allowing 70 per cent ownership by foreigners. I feel this issue needs to be

studied and reviewed to ensure our people’s rights are not sidelined. We need to get feedback from all quarters so that we can put together a report for the Cabinet and the prime minister in our effort to move forward. So far, we have tabled the initial report before the cabinet, which relates to the project facts including the project size, status on development that has been completed and still ongoing,” she said.

This was said by Zuraida after the National Local Government Council meeting chaired by Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Wan Azizah Wan Ismail on September 6.

In an interview on the same day, Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad had said he will support the Johor Menteri Besar’s wish for houses in the Forest City Project to be sold to foreigners, if the MB wants Malaysians to live in wooden houses.

The taunt was made against Datuk Osman Sapian by Dr Mahathir during a joint interview with Sinar Harian and Malaysiakini on September 6.

He said allowing foreigners to purchase houses in Forest City would indeed develop the country, but it would be at the cost of the everyday Malaysians.

“If Malaysia is given to foreigners, we would develop faster and become more advanced than Singapore because they have money to invest. They are business-savvy and can build beautiful buildings, but we will live in wooden houses with leaking roofs,” he said.

Dr Mahathir is against foreigners coming and living here, saying that if they made a city that is so big, surely they would not just come here for five days.

“If they start a business here, they would not open for seven days and then return to China or their country... They would surely want to live here. When they live here, they would become part of the country. If they ask for citizenship, we would not be able to refuse,” he said.

Dr Mahathir was responding to Osman’s remarks that the Prime Minister may not understand the state’s real estate policy.

The Prime Minister had previously caused much consternation when he announced that foreigners would be barred from buying properties at the multi-billion-ringgit Forest City project.

He later clarified that Chinese nationals could indeed purchase residential units at Forest City but they would not be issued visas to live there.

## Affordable Housing for Women & Youths



**KUALA LUMPUR** - Development land located near public transport infrastructure should be allocated for affordable housing developments, instead of selling them to the highest bidder from the private sector said Minister of Youth and Sports Syed Saddiq Syed Abdul Rahman.

This was said when the Minister of Youth and Sports was addressing home ownership issues among youths and ways to overcome them at the launch of the Kunci Rumah Pertamaku program by consulting firm Far Capital Sdn Bhd, which aims to help deserving women and youths in Malaysia to own property of their own.

“Whenever a new infrastructure plan is announced – whether it is the MRT Line 3, or 4 or 5, the plots of land surrounding the infrastructure is immediately sold to the highest private bidder. We as the government need to ensure that the interest of the rakyat is taken care of and ensure that those who are staying around these trans-

port systems are those who are underprivileged and need to use these public transport,” he said.

He explained that it is important to fight for the youths’ interest in this aspect in cabinet meetings.

This was explained after he pointed out that a lot of affordable houses being built are located too far away from the city centre with limited public transport and homeowners will end up paying much more to travel to work.

Saddiq pointed out that youths need to be educated on financial literacy as many of them who are under 30 are declared bankrupt due to credit card debts; their credit worthiness is one of the reasons why their bank housing loan applications are rejected.

He also suggested that homes be built surrounding sports complexes that are under-utilised so that youths can stay there and utilise the facilities to lead a balanced lifestyle instead of having the facilities go to waste.



## Safety Comes First

**KUALA LUMPUR** – Safety and security comes first to house buyers in their list of criteria when deciding on a purchase.

According to Savills Malaysia managing director Datuk Paul Khong, buyers are demanding for more especially in a buyer’s

market and they have a long list of wants.

“Lifestyle and themed developments, green concepts and energy-saving devices, water efficient fittings and security features with state-of-the-art technological facilities are now part of the add-ons to the standard property factors of location, building quality, and general amenities.

“Buyers want a safe place to live and need peace of mind that their families and personal belongings are secure,” he says.

Considering that the loan repayment would take decades, buyers want some assurance that the house they are purchasing is secure.

“Security is a critical item

in a property buyer’s final purchase decision,” says Khong, adding that although the data is inconclusive on whether the crime rate influences property prices, consumer trends suggest that crime is a determiner.

“Not much local research has been done on crime rates and property values, but we acknowledge that a correlation exists,” he adds.

Khong states that established gated-guarded developments such as Sierramas, Semantan Villa, Idamansara, Duta Nusantara, and Duta Tropika have been able to hold their values given their development concept and location.

“The security angle is included in the master planning

of newer townships such as Eco Majestic, Setia Eco City, and Tropicana Aman. Even existing neighbourhoods like Sri Hartamas, Bandar Utama, and Sec 17 have put up guardhouses with 24-hour security, boom gates and fencing to secure the neighbourhood.”

To determine which project is suitable, Khong advises that buyers must first decide what are their main criteria when buying a property such as the property location, type of development, and budget.

“They should study their target property well, ensure that a Valuation Report has been done, and carefully review the title document,” concludes Khong.

# Walk to Remember

By  
**Batrisyia Jay**

**T**he Royal Klang Heritage Walk (RKTHW) organised by Tourism Selangor in collaboration with Klang Municipal Council (MPK), Sultan Abdul Aziz Royal Gallery and Keretapi Tanah Melayu (KTM) was a media familiarisation programme which was officiated by Datuk Abdul Rashid Asari, Chairman of the Standing Committee of Culture and Tourism, 'Malay Tradition and Heritage of Selangor, Dato' Paiman Bin Keromo, CEO of Malay Culture and Heritage Corporation of Selangor (PADAT) and Dato' Hj. Mohamad Yasid Bin Bidin, Chief of the District, Klang Municipal Council (MPK).

Held on the 2nd of September 2018, the event was in conjunction with the nation's 61st Independence Day as an initiative to boost the spirit of 'Sayangi Malaysiaku' amongst the participants by exploring the country's early history in Klang.

Klang a royal town and former capital of Selangor is characterised by historic buildings and quaint, traditional structures such as the Indian Muslim Mosque in Tengku Kelana and the Alam Shah palace.

The free guided walk tour, the RKTHW program, aims to highlight the character, charm and unique attractions of Klang. These include clusters of colo-

nial sights, places of worship, a school, fire station, royal gallery and warehouse built by a local Malay chieftain.

Among the highlights is the Alam Shah Palace, Royal Klang Club, Tengku Kelana Street (Little India), Indian Muslim Mosque of Tengku Kelana, Klang fire station and the Sultan Abdul Aziz Royal Gallery.

"Finding the right balance between the development of a modern way of life, buildings and infrastructures, and conservations of traditions, architecture and culture is critical to ensure the country's attractiveness towards tourists, as well as a cultural heritage including historic building, sites, cultures and other invaluable assets that plays a major role in boosting the state's tourism sector" said Dato' Abdul Rashid Asari, Chairman of Standing Committee of Culture Tourism, Malay Civilisation and Heritage of Selangor.

"With the collaboration of Keretapi Tanah Melayu Railway Berhad in this event, we hope it could give an impact for the tourist. With the connection and easy access from the Klang train station to the city centre, we hope people will join and experience this free guided trip for themselves," he said.

## THE ROYAL TOWN

Known as one of the oldest towns in Selangor, if not Malaysia, Klang is rich in tradition, history and customs. The town began at the southern bank of the Klang River, which has been known throughout the world as the ultimate tin producer in early 15th century.

Prior to making Shah Alam their domain, Klang was the home of the royal family of Selangor and was named as the royal capital of the state. It was the capital of the British colonial administration for Selangor from 1875 until 1880. In 1880, the capital state was moved to Kuala Lumpur.

This programme gives an insight into the historical town's development, foundation of Selangor monarchy as well as the British colonial administration from a period of late 1800's to mid-1900.

Tourist guide, Alex Raj guided through captivating streets such as Jalan Tengku Kelana (Little India) and into private sites such as the Royal Klang Club, while enthralling with tales of people who played a significant role in the development of the town and its trade. "There can never be a town where you can find

buildings with multiple architectures from different parts of the world," says Alex, who was born and bred in Klang.

The RKTHW walk features 11 historical sites that are nestled in the heart of Klang as part of the program's highlights. These include the Sultan Abdul Aziz Royal Gallery, the former Chartered Bank, the Royal Klang Club, the Alam Shah palace, the Church of Our Lady Lourdes, Klang Convent School, Tengku Kelana street (Little India), the Indian Muslim Mosque of Tengku Kelana street, Sri Nagara Then-dayuthapathi Temple, Klang Fire Station and lastly, Gedung Raja Abdullah.

The first stop on the walk is the Sultan Abdul Aziz Gallery officially opened in 2007, the Royal Gallery is housed in the imposing Sultan Suleiman building. In December 2009 the building was gazetted as a National Heritage Building. Build by a British architect, the gallery has an extensive collection of royal memorabilia and paraphernalia belonging to the eighth Sultan of Selangor.

A favourite site was the Indian Muslim Mosque of Tengku Kelana Street. With its majestic and imposing structure, it's hard to not be dazzled by it. Nestled within Little India, the mosque caters to the Indian Muslim community in Klang. Historically important, this was the centre where Southern Indians migrated to Malaya in the 18th century. A worship centre was built in Klang in 1890. This centre of worship was turned into a mosque in 1910 and governed by an Indian merchant.

The original mosque was demolished in 1973 and rebuilt as the present two-storey building it is today. "This mosque is a mixture of Andalusian Egyptian and South Indian architecture," explained Alex, who admits that the mosque is one of the most beautiful of its kind that he had ever laid eyes on, especially when viewed during sun set.

*The buildings here encapsulate stories of the yesteryears and give Klang its character today. They should be preserved to be appreciated by our generation*

**Hooi E-Wen**

Travel and Lifestyle Blogger.



## REVEALING EXPERIENCE

"I had mixed emotions of awe, nostalgia and patriotism during the two-and-a-half-hour walk," said Hooi E-wen, a fellow participant of the RKTHW program that day. "The buildings here encapsulate stories of the yesteryears and give Klang its character today. They should be preserved to be appreciated by future generations," she says.

Hooi, who is a travel and lifestyle blogger, felt fortunate to be enlightened about the heritage of Klang. She believed that the time-honoured buildings that she has not taken note of before will never be viewed the same again after this tour. It was indeed an informative and enlightening experience for all.

"By promoting the culture and creating awareness about this Royal Klang Heritage Walk, not only does it help boost the arrival of tourists, it also helps to improve the economic status of the people in the district of Klang. If done right, I believe and I am convinced that this type of event will create impact and contribute to the rising number of international and local tourists and achieve the targeted 7.5 million tourist arrivals in 2018," said Noorul Ashkin Mohd Din, General Manager of Tourism Selangor.

By promoting the culture and creating awareness about this Royal Klang Heritage Walk, not only does it help boost the arrival of tourists, it also helps to improve the economic status of the people in the district of Klang

**Noorul Ashkin Mohd Din**  
General Manager of  
Tourism Selangor.

# AROUND TOWN

September 2018 edition

## MARISA R NG



### The Secret Garden Art Exhibition

[facebook.com/events/2150633401615570/](https://facebook.com/events/2150633401615570/)

The opening reception of Marisa R Ng's 4th solo art exhibition will showcase 30 new and 27 older works on display. The exhibition will start from 26th September - 4th October 2018. The opening reception will be on Saturday 29th September 2018.

"As a child, I was enthralled by the story, 'The Secret Garden' by Frances Hodgson Burnett. Today, I am a grown woman on a journey to discover my own "secret garden", the one that is embedded deep within my heart. Strangely, I had almost forgotten it existed, buried so thick underneath the overgrown tangle of emotional despair and heartache. Yet, as I gather the courage to pull out the weeds, I begin to uncover tiny buds of life beneath the layers of debris. As I tend to my garden, it starts bursting with blooms, rich and warm; bright and beautiful. What an amazing and glorious find, the garden of my heart. It is alive and well!"

-Marisa R Ng

- Galeri Prima, Bangsar
- 26 September 2018 – 4 October 2018; 29 September 2018 (Opening reception)
- Free

## Macik Puan Sri

[instagram.com/macikpuan/](https://www.instagram.com/macikpuan/)

### Dear readers,

How are you alls? Macik is not so well. My mind is very confused. You see recently after coming back from my very shariah compliant bikini wearing holidays I was reading news. Everyone was agog something is happening. Someone is going to contest some seat again. I mean so many by-elections already. I thought

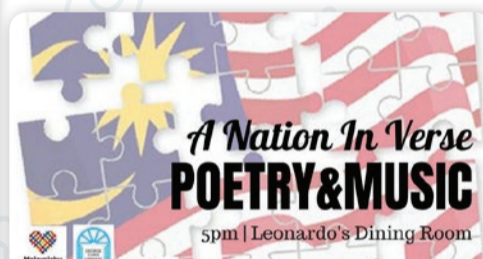


### Music of The Islamic World

[iamm.org.my/music-of-the-islamic-world](http://iamm.org.my/music-of-the-islamic-world)

Islamic Arts Museum Malaysia will host a two-day event in collaboration with Pusaka, with the support of the Canada Council for the Arts, the High Commission of Canada in Malaysia. Don't miss this opportunity to attend a talk by Edin Khoo, the Under the Persian Musical Sky concert by Grammy Award-winning kamancheh master Kayhan Kalhor and workshop on Persian Classical Music with Kayhan Kalhor, Kiya Tabassian and Ziya Tabassian.

- Islamic Arts Museum Malaysia
- 15 September 2018
- Free



### A Nation in Verse

[facebook.com/events/463329144151867/](https://facebook.com/events/463329144151867/)

George Town Literary Festival 2018 and If Walls Could Talk - Poetry Open Mic present an eclectic line up of home-grown Malaysian poets and storytellers. Listen as they navigate through these puzzling times of our 61 year old country. Hosted by Meliz-rani T.Selva, the event feature poems from Ruoh Peng Chiew Lily Jama-ludin Dhinesha Karthigesu, Tshiong Han See, Nana, Jack Kin Lim, Joyce Fong, Afi Noor, Puteri Yasmin Suraya and Katrina Jorene Maliamauv, as well as a musical performance by Brian Gomez.

- Leonardo's Dining Room & Wine Loft
- 16 September 2018
- Free



### Budi Kritik: A conversation

[facebook.com/events/720182524981384/](https://facebook.com/events/720182524981384/)

Meet the book editors and writers from The Reading Group, Singapore. They will share their project of seeding progressive thought within the younger generation amidst the challenge of rising conservatism. Budi Kritik is a compilation of 22 essays that touches on critical issues affecting Malay society, ranging from language, literature, religious reform, inter- and intra-faith, education and sociopolitics.

- Tintabudi bookshop, Kuala Lumpur
- 16 September 2018
- Free



### Art Expo Malaysia 2018

[facebook.com/events/288084565309804/](https://facebook.com/events/288084565309804/)

Art Expo Malaysia (AEM) is celebrating its 12th edition in 2018 as the longest-running international art fair in Southeast Asia. It gets better and better, with the unveiling of a 1+8 Special Exhibition Area (SEA) that offers a different tack to exhibition presentation, appreciation, and the inaugural Japan Pavilion. This year's art fair will be held at the MATRADE Exhibition and Convention Centre (MECC) Kuala Lumpur, from October 12 to 14. It will feature 65 reputable art galleries from 22 countries, exhibiting some 1,500 pieces of artworks under one roof.

- MATRADE Exhibition and Convention Centre (MECC), Kuala Lumpur
- 12 October 2018 – 14 October 2018
- Free

the country had no money, rakyat had to contribute to Tabung Harapan and that the new budget would be 'belt' tightening. Macik is very worried how to buy nice Belgian chocolate like this? By-elections cost money why have unnecessary ones? Shouldn't we wait it out a bit no rush. The old Dr is still healthy and able, it seems. Sabar itu indah kan? Macik thinks its the little impatient boy who can't wait to

get his hands in the cookie jar. Oh well, currently I miss my favourite person, she is so quiet, no big hairdo and tiaras now always wears a shawl, so ayu. I also had another shock some surreptitious documents have been revealed I say tad too late and too little. No one cares anymore. Whatever happens I am all set for PD. Bye you alls don't get too excited and stay glued for more exciting things to come.