



FOR MEMBERS ONLY  
**JANUARY to MARCH 2025**



# PROFESSIONAL BULLETIN

# EDITOR'S DESK

BIM E-Buletin Editor

**Datin TPr Noraida Saludin**

Chairman, BIM Publication & Multimedia Committee

## OUR E-BULLETIN TEAM



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Greetings from the Editorial Desk!

We are pleased to present the first issue of the BIM e-Buletin for 2025, covering the vibrant start to the year and the meaningful engagements that have taken place over the first quarter. As always, Balai Ikhtisas Malaysia (BIM) remains committed to fostering professional excellence, sustainability, and inclusive development.

This quarter, BIM embarked on a significant collaboration with Dewan Bandaraya Kuala Lumpur (DBKL) to explore strategic pathways for the sustainable development of our

capital city. This marks a milestone initiative that aligns with our shared vision of building a future-ready, liveable Kuala Lumpur.

We also spotlight the success of Intelli Supply 2025, which brought together thought leaders in warehouse automation and supply chain innovation — a timely conversation in today's rapidly evolving industrial landscape.

March also marked a celebration of strength and achievement with our International Women's Day event. We were proud to announce the upcoming FemFORWARD International Forum and Awards 2025, an important platform to recognise and elevate women professionals across disciplines.

Our Presidential Advisory Council (PAC) meeting concluded with a heartfelt Buka Puasa Dinner, reflecting the spirit of unity and strategic foresight as we chart our course for the year ahead.

Finally, in the spirit of giving back, the Back to School Project 2025 in collaboration with Pertubuhan Kesihatan dan Kebajikan Umum Malaysia (PKKUM) brought joy to children in need, coupled with a warm Iftar gathering that reminded us of the values that bind us as a community.

As we move forward, we thank all members, partners, and volunteers for their continued support. Here's to a purposeful and impactful 2025 ahead!

Warm regards,

BIM E-Buletin Editor

**Datin TPr Noraida Saludin**

Chairman, BIM Publication & Multimedia Committee

President, Malaysian Institute of Planners (MIP)

# PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

BIM President 2023/25  
**Prof. ChM Dr. Juan Joon Ching**



In recent years, the construction and property development industries have experienced a paradigm shift driven by the integration of digital technologies and artificial intelligence into traditional workflows. This edition of the Professional E-Bulletin is themed around the critical intersections of engineering, construction, and property. We are proud to acknowledge the invaluable contributions of our members institutions namely Institution of Engineers Malaysia (IEM), Pertubuhan Akitek Malaysia (PAM), Royal Institution of Surveyors Malaysia (RISM), Malaysian Institute of Planners (MIP), Chartered Institute of Building (CIOB), and Institute of Landscape Architects Malaysia (ILAM) which plays a pivotal role in advancing BIM adoption within their respective disciplines.

These institutions represent a multidisciplinary alliance that reflects the collaborative spirit of BIM itself. We also extend our appreciation to our corporate affiliates which consist of Malaysian Association of Social Impact Assessment (MSIA) and Association of Consulting Quantity Surveyors Malaysia (ACQSM) for their growing involvement into broader considerations such as social impact and cost consultancy. This inclusive approach underscores the fact that BIM is not confined to technical execution alone but also encompasses holistic project delivery and lifecycle thinking.

In order for BIM to remain relevant today, it must serve as a core enabler of efficiency, risk management, and sustainability. It is our privilege to secure a courtesy visit on 13<sup>th</sup> February 2025 with the Mayor of Kuala Lumpur Dato' Seri TPr. Dr. Maimunah Mohd Sharif is also the recipient of our highest BIM Lifetime Achievement Award. During this visit the BIM team proposes to serve as a dedicated task force to enhance sustainable urban development, improve planning and advance Kuala Lumpur's according to Pelan Pembangunan Kuala Lumpur 2040 (PPKL2040). Engineers now rely on it for precise analysis and system integration; architects use it to visualize and refine spatial experiences; planners and surveyors apply it to evaluate feasibility and compliance; builders employ it to streamline execution and monitor progress; and property owners benefit from digital twins for informed asset management.

This bulletin captures thought leadership, case studies, and technological advancements that are shaping the future of our industry. By sharing knowledge and best practices, we hope to empower professionals across disciplines. This is a collective journey that flourishes through collaboration, ongoing learning, and common purpose. Let this bulletin serve as both a reflection of how far we've come, and a roadmap for where we aim to go as a nation. Through the unity of innovation and collaboration, we possess the power to build smarter, create better outcomes, and shape a future that is truly sustainable.

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## BIM & DBKL TO ESTABLISH COLLABORATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF KUALA LUMPUR

MalaysiaGlobalBusinessForum.com, 14 February 2025

The Balai Ikhtisas Malaysia (BIM) paid a courtesy visit to the Mayor of Kuala Lumpur, Dato' Seri Maimunah binti Mohd Sharif, to discuss strategic collaboration for the city's development.

The BIM delegation was led by its President, Prof. ChM Dr. Juan Joon Ching, along with former BIM President, Dato' Lar Ismail Ngah, and 10 EXCO members and secretariat representatives. The discussion focused on BIM's role in realising the objectives of the Kuala Lumpur Local Plan 2040 (PTKL 2040).

Dato' Seri Maimunah emphasised the importance of collaboration between local authorities and professional bodies to ensure Kuala Lumpur evolves into a more "Sustainable and Loveable" city.



"This collaboration is crucial in achieving Kuala Lumpur's vision as an innovative, inclusive, green, low carbon, and efficient-mobility city. With the expertise of various professional sectors within BIM, we can develop Kuala Lumpur in a more sustainable and integrated manner," she said.



PTKL 2040 highlights six key strategies to ensure balanced and sustainable development, Kuala Lumpur as an Innovative and Productive City, Kuala Lumpur as an Inclusive and Equitable City, Kuala Lumpur as a Green, Healthy, and Vibrant City, Kuala Lumpur as a Climate-Smart and Low-Carbon City, Kuala Lumpur as an Efficient and Eco-Friendly Mobility City and Kuala Lumpur as an Integrated and Sustainable Development City

This visit reflects DBKL's ongoing efforts to engage stakeholders in transforming Kuala Lumpur into a world-class city by 2040.

Source: BIM Publicity EXCO

## BIM & DBKL TO ESTABLISH COLLABORATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF KUALA LUMPUR

MalaysiaGlobalBusinessForum.com, 14 February 2025





## INTELLI SUPPLY 2025 EMPOWERS WAREHOUSE AUTOMATION AND SUPPLY CHAIN

Newshubasia.com, 19<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2025



Malaysia continues to strengthen its position as a key hub for supply chain innovation with the organisation of Intelli Supply 2025, an international conference and exhibition focusing on warehouse automation and digital transformation in logistics.

Intelli Supply 2025 is organised by Synergy Connect Holdings in strategic collaboration with Women in Logistics & Transport (WiLAT), The Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport Malaysia (CILT(M) Johor branch, Balai Ikhtisas Malaysia (BIM), The Society of Logisticians

This conference brings together global industry leaders, policymakers, and innovators to explore advancements in logistics and supply chain management. The event is officiated by Dato' Sri Dr. Adham Baba, Chairman of Yayasan Makmur Majlis Daerah Kota Tinggi and former Minister of Science, Technology, and Innovation (MOSTI) and Health. In his keynote speech, he emphasised the importance of digital transformation and automation in enhancing Malaysia's competitiveness in the region. This initiative aligns with Malaysia's role as the host of ASEAN, driving business growth, strengthening strategic partnerships, and shaping the future of warehouse automation and logistics in the region while attracting foreign investments.



Malaysian (LogM), the Malaysia Robotics & Automation Society (MyRAS), and the Federation of Malaysian Freight Forwarders.



## INTELLI SUPPLY 2025 EMPOWERS WAREHOUSE AUTOMATION AND SUPPLY CHAIN

Newshubasia.com, 19<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2025

According to Joanne Tham, founder and director of Synergy Connect Holdings, this event features a lineup of renowned speakers and industry experts from global and regional companies, including Hangzhou Hikrobot Intelligent, Kardex, DELIECN, Xin Hwa Supply Chain, Faurtat, Lalamove, Snapdec, Allied Forklift, Autostore, Tiramizoo Intelligent Traceability, Ashisuto Global, and Zebra Technologies.



## CELEBRATING INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY AND ANNOUNCING FemFORWARD INTERNATIONAL FORUM AND AWARDS 2025

8 March 2025

In celebration of **International Women's Day**, Synergy Connect hosted a special event aimed at fostering meaningful discussions on women's empowerment across various industries. The event, held on 8 March 2025 brought together leaders, professionals, and advocates from diverse sectors to engage in conversations focused on advancing women's roles in the workplace, leadership, and entrepreneurship.

The event's core objective was to provide a platform for empowering women across industries and discussing the challenges they face, as well as opportunities for advancement. Through dynamic panel discussions, networking sessions, and keynote speeches, the event highlighted the importance of gender equality and the need for collaborative efforts to promote women's leadership across sectors.

**Key Supporters and Partners:** The event was proudly supported by several prominent organizations and associations, reflecting a strong commitment to advancing women's roles in business, trade, and logistics:

- Women in Trade & Industry (WITI) under the Ministry of Investment, Trade, and Industry (MITI)
- Women in Logistics & Transport (WiLAT)
- The Chartered Institute of Logistics & Transport (CILT) Malaysia
- Wanita SAMENTA (Small and Medium Enterprise Association)
- Balai Ikhtisas Malaysia



It will also mark the official announcement of FemForward 2025 International Forum & Awards, scheduled to take place on May 7, 2025, in Kuala Lumpur. This forum aims to bring together global leaders, influencers, and change-makers to further discuss and celebrate women's achievements in business, leadership, and entrepreneurship.



## CELEBRATING INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY AND ANNOUNCING FemFORWARD INTERNATIONAL FORUM AND AWARDS 2025

8 March 2025




● Fearless ● Empowered ● Marvellous

Accelerate Action in Women Community  
International Forum & Awards 2025

 in conjunction with International Women's Day

 **Date**  
07 May 2025

 **Time**  
09:00AM - 05:00PM

 **Venue**  
Kuala Lumpur

Organized by:   

Sponsored by:   

Contact us: +601 2838 8488 | Email: info@synergy-school.com | www.synergy-school.com

This event is part of an ongoing effort to encourage greater representation of women in leadership roles, especially in industries where they have traditionally been underrepresented. With support from MITI, CILT, WiLAT, and other key stakeholders, this initiative emphasizes the importance of creating an inclusive environment where women can thrive and make a lasting impact.

# PRESIDENTIAL ADVISORY COUNCIL (PAC) MEETING AND BUKA PUASA DINNER

19 March 2025

On Wednesday, 19 March 2025, the Exco Meeting and PAC Meeting were held at the Sheraton Hotel Petaling Jaya. Following the formal sessions, the **Together Buka Puasa Dinner** provided attendees with an opportunity to connect in a more informal setting.

The dinner, held in conjunction with the meetings, allowed for meaningful networking and fostered a sense of community among participants. Attendees expressed their appreciation for the well-organized event, highlighting the positive and fruitful interactions that took place during the evening.

Past Presidents including Datuk P. Kasi, Dr Tan Yoke Sing and Mr John C.P. Chang attended the PAC meeting and Buka Puasa Dinner





## PRESIDENTIAL ADVISORY COUNCIL (PAC) MEETING AND BUKA PUASA DINNER

19 March 2025



## BACK TO SCHOOL PROJECT 2025 AND IFTAR WITH PERTUBUHAN KESIHATAN DAN KEBAJIKAN UMUM MALAYSIA (PKKUM)

21 March 2025

**Kuala Lumpur, 21 March 2025** – In the spirit of Ramadan, Balai Ikhtisas Malaysia (BIM), in collaboration with Pertubuhan Kesihatan dan Kebajikan Umum Malaysia (PKKUM), has supported the *"Children Back to School"* project to provide essential school uniforms and financial aid (*Duit Raya*) to 21 underprivileged children from highly vulnerable backgrounds.

By equipping these children with school uniforms and financial support, we are not only preparing them for the new school year but also instilling confidence and motivation to pursue their dreams.





## BACK TO SCHOOL PROJECT 2025 AND IFTAR WITH PERTUBUHAN KESIHATAN DAN KEBAJIKAN UMUM MALAYSIA (PKKUM)

21 March 2025

"We hope this initiative inspires more organizations and individuals to come together in support of marginalized communities.

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who played a role in making this initiative a reality. Your efforts, big or small, contribute to a brighter future. May this step forward create a lasting impact!"



# MIP Planning Excellence Awards (PEA) and Gala Dinner

24 January 2025

On 24 January 2025, the MIP Planning Excellence Awards and Gala Dinner took place at the prestigious Majestic Hotel in Kuala Lumpur. The event, which gathered key figures from Malaysia’s planning and development sector, was graced by **Dato’ Seri Anwar Bin Ibrahim, the Prime Minister of Malaysia**, as the Guest of Honour.

Among the distinguished guests was Prof ChM Dr Juan Joon Ching, the President of Balai Ikhtisas Malaysia (BIM). As part of BIM’s ongoing commitment to fostering excellence in planning and development, Prof Juan Joon Ching actively participated in the event and engaged in valuable networking opportunities with fellow members and industry leaders.





## MIP Planning Excellence Awards (PEA) and Gala Dinner

24 January 2025



## National Heritage Conference 2025

18–19 February 2025 @ Hatten Hotel, Melaka

The **Malaysian Institute of Planners (MIP)** successfully hosted the inaugural **National Heritage Conference 2025** at Hatten Hotel, Melaka, from 18th to 19th February 2025. Themed "**Our History, Our Heritage**", the conference aimed to emphasize the importance of preserving Melaka's rich heritage, especially in the context of its status as a UNESCO World Heritage City.



Nearly **200 participants** attended the event, comprising a diverse group of **local council representatives, developers, planning and architecture firms, NGOs, and students**. Together, they explored the significance of heritage and the urgent need for its conservation in Melaka.

The conference was a milestone event co-organized by **ICOMOS Malaysia**, with **Majlis Bandaraya Melaka Bersejarah** as the host city. The event was made possible thanks to the support of key partners, including **Jabatan Perancangan Bandar dan Desa (PLANMalaysia)**, **Lembaga Perancangan Bandar Malaysia (LPBM)**, **Badan Warisan Malaysia**, and **Think City**.

**YB Exco Kanan Perumahan, Kerajaan Tempatan, Saliran, Perubahan Iklim dan Pengurusan Bencana, Kerajaan Negeri Melaka** officiated the conference, reaffirming the state's commitment to the preservation and sustainable management of heritage sites for future generations.

The success of this event marks an important step in fostering collaboration among stakeholders in heritage conservation, ensuring Melaka's cultural treasures remain protected for years to come.



## National Heritage Conference 2025

18-19 February 2025 @ Hatten Hotel, Melaka



# RISM INTER-DIVISION 2025 BOWLING TOURNAMENT

23 February 2025



Registration Closing Date:  
10th Feb 2025





Organized by  
RISM Sports & Social Committee  
Session 2024/2025

## 2025 RISM INTER-DIVISION BOWLING TOURNAMENT

23rd February 2025 (Sunday) | 10:00 am to 1:00 pm  
Wangsa Bowl, Wangsa Walk, KL

Prize Categories!

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Mr Amin: 017 - 944 4621







## RISM INTER-DIVISION 2025 BOWLING TOURNAMENT

23 February 2025



## FMBA Chinese New Year and Networking Event

25 February 2025

25 February 2025 - **The Federation of Malaysian Business Associations (FMBA)** hosted its annual Chinese New Year and Networking Event at Maxis Tower. The event brought together professionals and business leaders from various sectors to celebrate the Chinese New Year and foster stronger networking ties within Malaysia's business community.

The FMBA Chinese New Year and Networking Event serves as an excellent platform for the BIM community to expand its network and discuss the future of technology in construction. The event showcased how businesses from various sectors can collaborate in adopting innovative approaches, with BIM playing a pivotal role in the industry's evolution.





## NATIONAL LANDSCAPE DAY

3 March 2025

**Occasion:** Celebration of Malaysia's National Landscape Day

**Purpose:** A tribute to the beauty, sustainability, and innovation in Malaysia's landscapes

**Message:** Encouraging the creation of greener, healthier, and more vibrant environments for all

**Focus:**

- Appreciation for parks, gardens, and urban spaces
- Emphasis on the importance of green spaces in making cities more livable
- Commitment to a sustainable and greener future for all



TOGETHER, WE SHAPE GREENER FUTURE,  
FOSTERING HEALTHIER AND MORE VIBRANT ENVIRONMENTS FOR OUR COMMUNITIES.

## PAC TO HOLD PUBLIC HEARING ON SOARING HEALTHCARE COSTS, INSURANCE HIKES

Malaysiakini, 7 February 2025



In an unprecedented move, the Public Accounts Committee (PAC) will conduct a public hearing to address the rising costs of health insurance, takaful premiums and private hospital charges, as well as their impact on public healthcare.

“Through this public hearing, all perspectives will be openly considered and incorporated into the PAC report before it is presented in Parliament,” the committee stated.

The PAC acknowledged growing public concern over the unchecked increase in private hospital fees and insurance premiums, as well as their strain on the public healthcare system.

“While we welcome the interim measures taken by the government and Bank Negara Malaysia to cap insurance premium hikes, a long-term solution must be explored,” the committee emphasised.

To that end, the PAC aims to support the government in drafting a “Private Healthcare Reform” plan through comprehensive discussions with all stakeholders, ensuring public input is taken into account.

Following the public hearing, PAC said it would conduct closed-door proceedings under Rule 85 of the House of Representatives Standing Orders, summoning key stakeholders, including relevant ministries, departments, and government agencies, to provide testimony.

### Summary

- The Public Accounts Committee will hold a public hearing to address the rising costs of health insurance, takaful premiums and private hospital charges.
- The committee acknowledges growing public concerns over unchecked increases, adds that a long-term solution must be explored



“Therefore, PAC invites the public, including (but not limited to): complainants against insurance companies and private hospitals, insurance policyholders, consumer association representatives, insurance agents, insurance company representatives, private hospital management representatives, specialist doctors, private hospital staff representatives, pharmaceutical company representatives, NGOs, academics and healthcare service experts to attend the hearings,” it added.

The first public hearing session will take place in Penang at the AC Marriott Hotel, Bukit Jambul on Feb 14 from 9am-12pm. The second will be held in Kuala Lumpur at the banquet hall, main block, Parliament building on Feb 21 from 9am-12pm.

Those interested in attending can register [here](#).



## PAC TO HOLD PUBLIC HEARING ON SOARING HEALTHCARE COSTS, INSURANCE HIKES

Malaysiakini, 7 February 2025

### Zero tolerance

Previously, Prime Minister Anwar Ibrahim said the government would not tolerate unjustified increases in health insurance premiums.

“If I am not convinced that the increase is reasonable, I will not support or allow it. This is our principle. Any increase in insurance premiums must be backed by valid reasons.

“For instance, one of the most unreasonable factors is the rate itself. There needs to be a standard, as seen in many countries,” he added.

Yesterday, Finance Minister II Amir Hamzah Azizan said the continuous rise in medical inflation has led to an increase in the claims rate for medical and health insurance and takaful.

He was reported as stating that Bank Negara has taken several interim measures to curb the impact of rising premiums, which took effect on Jan 15.



## MALAYSIA'S PROPERTY MARKET IS SURGING

### — Here's what's behind the growth

Asiapropertyawards.com, 25 February 2025



*Malaysia's property market is experiencing a defining moment, surpassing transaction targets and positioning itself as a leader in affordable housing across ASEAN, says Assoc. Prof. LAr. Dr. Nor Atiah Ismail, President of the Institute of Landscape Architects Malaysia (ILAM) and judge for the PropertyGuru Asia Awards Malaysia in partnership with iproperty.com.my.*

Assoc. Prof LAr. Dr Nor Atiah Ismail  
President, Institute of Landscape Architects Malaysia (ILAM)

### A winning combination of investment appeal, smart urban planning, and government initiatives



The country is leading in affordability and sustainability while attracting global investors.

Malaysia's real estate market is experiencing unprecedented growth, with property transactions exceeding MYR217.46 billion in early 2024, surpassing initial targets, according to [New Straits Times](#). Meanwhile, foreign direct investment (FDI) in the sector has surged, with USD1.98 billion invested in the first five months of the year—a 70 percent increase compared to 2023.

This surge is fuelled by a strong focus on affordable housing, infrastructure expansion, and sustainable urban development, positioning Malaysia as a key property investment hub in ASEAN.

## MALAYSIA'S PROPERTY MARKET IS SURGING

### – Here's what's behind the growth

Asiapropertyawards.com, 25 February 2025

#### Affordable housing: A game-changer in Malaysia's real estate growth

[Business Today Malaysia](#) stated that Malaysia has taken the lead in affordable housing development in the region, with government-backed initiatives such as PR1MA, Residensi Wilayah, and Rumah Selangorku enabling more Malaysians to own homes. Unlike previous low-cost housing projects, these new developments emphasise liveability, green spaces, and quality community planning.

"One of the primary drivers behind this growth is the Malaysian government's strong commitment to affordable housing," Dr. Nor Atiah states. "However, what sets Malaysia apart from other ASEAN countries is its increasing focus on ensuring that affordability does not compromise liveability."

"Gone are the days when low-cost housing meant poorly designed, dense, and uninspiring spaces. Today, more projects incorporate green spaces, public parks, and community-friendly infrastructure, making affordability synonymous with quality living."

#### Infrastructure development fuels demand in key urban areas

Another key factor behind Malaysia's thriving real estate market is its rapid expansion of public transport networks and expressways, making suburban areas more accessible and attractive to homebuyers and investors. The MRT, LRT, and major highways have helped drive demand for transit-oriented developments (TODs), reported the [Bangkok Post](#).

"The expansion of the MRT, LRT, and major expressways has significantly increased accessibility, making suburban areas more attractive for homeowners and investors," Dr. Nor Atiah explains. "Transit-oriented developments (TODs) are thriving, proving that well-connected, walkable, green urban centres are the future."

"When cities are designed around public transit, they must also consider pedestrian-friendly environments, shaded walkways, green buffers, and public plazas that enhance mobility without depending entirely on cars," Dr. Nor Atiah adds.

#### Sustainability and nature-based solutions take centre stage

As climate change and urban resilience become pressing global issues, Malaysia is leading the way in sustainable real estate development. More projects now integrate biophilic design, green roofs, and flood-resilient landscaping to enhance property value while reducing environmental impact.

"Another exciting shift in the property market is the rising demand for nature-inspired developments," Dr. Nor Atiah points out.

"Today's buyers and investors are more conscious of their living environment, preferring sustainable developments, biophilic design, and climate-responsive planning."

This shift reflects a growing awareness of urban heat islands, rising temperatures, unpredictable weather patterns, and worsening floods that are pushing developers to embed climate-conscious planning into their projects.

"We are facing the impacts of climate change—and our built environment must be part of the solution."

"Recognising the urgent need to embrace resilience and sustainable urban planning, the Institute of Landscape Architects Malaysia (ILAM) has been actively championing Nature-Based Solutions (NBS) as a fundamental approach to all developments," Dr. Nor Atiah highlights.

[The Sun](#) explained that ILAM has been actively promoting NBS to integrate ecological systems into real estate projects. These strategies include urban forests, flood-resilient landscapes, and biodiversity corridors that regulate temperatures and improve stormwater management.



## MALAYSIA'S PROPERTY MARKET IS SURGING

### – Here's what's behind the growth

Asiapropertyawards.com, 25 February 2025

#### Malaysia's global recognition: Award-winning developments shine

Malaysia's approach to sustainable, well-designed developments has not gone unnoticed. The country's top real estate projects recently gained global recognition at the [19th PropertyGuru Asia Property Awards Grand Final 2024](#), where Malaysian developers competed and were deemed Asia Winner against 15 markets across Asia, Australia, and the Middle East, taking home several prestigious awards:

- Best Mid End Condo Development (Asia) – Helix2 @ PJ South by Eupe Corporation Berhad
- Best Completed Condo Development (Asia) – The Park 2 Pavilion Bukit Jalil by Malton Berhad
- Best Eco Friendly Condo Development (Asia) – Alfa Bangsar by City Motors Group
- Best Affordable Housing / Landed Development (Asia) – Avisa Residences, Tropicana Alam by Tropicana Corporation Berhad
- Best Investment Housing Development (Asia) – Iconia Garden Residence by Gunung Impian Development Sdn Bhd
- Best Branded Residential Development (Asia) – Quayside JBCC by Bangsar Heights Pavilion – Malaysia (WINNER)
- Best Smart Home Development (Asia) – Sanubari @ Bandar Dato Onn by JLand Group Sdn Bhd
- Best Mega Township Masterplan Design (Asia) – Medini Innopolis by Iskandar Investment Berhad
- Best Housing / Landed Architectural Design (Asia) – Ponderosa Callista by Berinda Group

"Developers who adopt these principles are not just building for today's market, but for a future where climate adaptation and urban resilience will define real estate success," Dr. Nor Atiah states.

#### What's next for Malaysia's property market?

While Malaysia's property sector is enjoying an unprecedented boom, long-term sustainability will depend on balancing affordability, urban resilience, and environmental responsibility. Ensuring housing affordability for locals while continuing to attract foreign investment is key to maintaining stable growth.

"Malaysia's strategic regional property investment hub position also fuels this momentum," Dr. Nor Atiah explains.

"Our property market remains one of the most affordable in ASEAN, attracting foreign investors from Singapore, China, and the Middle East who see Malaysia as a high-value destination."

However, Dr. Nor Atiah also emphasises that affordability should not come at the expense of quality and sustainability.

"The success of a property market should not be measured merely by sales and foreign investments, but by how well our developments contribute to the overall well-being of both people and the environment," she concludes.

With a strong focus on transit-oriented living, nature-based urban design, and sustainable investment strategies, Malaysia is well-positioned to lead ASEAN in real estate transactions and become a global model for sustainable urban development.

**Know of any award-worthy residential, commercial, or industrial projects in the country? Nominate them for the 12th annual PropertyGuru Asia Awards Malaysia in partnership with iProperty.com.my on or before 30 May 2025. To know more, visit [AsiaPropertyAwards.com/Award/Malaysia/](https://AsiaPropertyAwards.com/Award/Malaysia/).**

Gynen Kyra Toriano, Digital Content Manager at PropertyGuru, wrote this article.

## PHARMACISTS SOCIETY BACKS CALL FOR MORATORIUM ON MEDICINE PRICE DISPLAY

FMT Reporters, 28 February 2025

**The Malaysian Pharmacists Society says issues with the fee cap under the Private Healthcare Facilities and Services Act 1998 should be resolved first.**

PETALING JAYA:

The Malaysian Pharmacists Society (MPS) has joined the calls to the government to delay the implementation of mandatory price displays at private healthcare facilities.

Its president, Amrahi Buang, said the society was aligned with the Malaysian Medical Association (MMA) in calling for a moratorium on the policy until issues with the fee cap under the Private Healthcare Facilities and Services Act 1998 are resolved.

In a statement today, Amrahi said the long-standing fee cap, under Schedule 7 of the Act, has not been revised in over two decades, and its resolution must be prioritised before additional regulatory burdens are imposed.

He also said the government should extend the same moratorium to independent community pharmacies, which face significant implementation and digitalisation costs.

“Unlike large pharmacy chains, independent pharmacies may struggle to absorb these costs, potentially affecting their sustainability and ability to serve patients effectively,” he said.

Last week, the MMA called for the government to delay the implementation of mandatory price displays until key issues affecting private general practitioners are resolved.

Its remarks came despite the health ministry maintaining that private healthcare facilities must display medicine prices starting this year under the Price Control and Anti-Profiteering Act 2011.



The health ministry said private healthcare facilities must display medicine prices starting this year under the Price Control and Anti-Profiteering Act 2011. (Freepik pic)

The move has largely been opposed by MMA and the Federation of Private Medical Practitioners' Associations, Malaysia.

Amrahi said the government should consider introducing incentives to encourage compliance with the proposed implementation of mandatory price displays.

He said this approach acknowledges the effort involved while encouraging adherence to the new policy.

“Recognising the financial and administrative burden of compliance, MPS proposes that tax relief or other incentives be provided to healthcare professionals and pharmacies that successfully implement price transparency measures,” he said.

He also said mandatory price displays should not be limited to healthcare professionals but should extend to wholesalers and manufacturers as well.

“A holistic approach ensures that transparency is achieved at all levels of the supply chain, preventing undue burden on pharmacies and private healthcare providers,” he said.

## THIRD-PARTY ADMINISTRATOR PROBLEM STRAINING CLINICS FINANCIALLY, SAYS MMA

FMT Reporters, 5 March 2025

Dr Kalwinder Singh Khaira says this financial burden has been compounded by stagnant consultation fees and rising operational costs.

**PETALING JAYA:**

The Malaysian Medical Association (MMA) said today there is an urgent need to resolve problems related to third-party administrators (TPAs) as they are “putting a severe strain” on general practitioners’ clinics.

While welcoming the government’s initiative to review private clinic consultation fees, MMA president Dr Kalwinder Singh Khaira said it was equally important to address challenges related to the role of TPAs, which impacted a significant number of urban patients.



“A critical issue that must also be addressed is the role of TPAs, as 65% of urban patients receive healthcare benefits through these corporate arrangements.

“Many GPs are tied to TPA contracts that impose high administrative fees and fix low consultation rates. Together with delayed payments, this puts a strain on the financial viability of GP clinics,” he said in a statement.

Kalwinder said the financial burden on clinics had been compounded by stagnant consultation fees and rising operational costs.

“It is important to note that the current RM10-RM35 consultation fee range was originally proposed by MMA in 1992 before being incorporated into Schedule 7 of the Private Healthcare Facilities and Services Act 1998 in 2006.

“However, there has been no adjustment of consultation fees at all since 1992, despite every other product and service having seen multiple increments over this period,” he said.

Kalwinder said private clinics were struggling to stay afloat due to the increasing cost of staff salaries, rentals, utilities and equipment, in addition to the increased costs associated with various regulations imposed over the years.

“The stagnant consultation fees and high operational costs have also led to many private clinics closing down over the past few years,” he said.

Kalwinder said the call for a fee review was not about imposing a sudden price hike, but ensuring a fair and sustainable adjustment that reflected the reality of operating costs while maintaining affordability for patients.



## THIRD-PARTY ADMINISTRATOR PROBLEM STRAINING CLINICS FINANCIALLY, SAYS MMA

FMT Reporters, 5 March 2025



*Kalwinder said in 2013, the government set consultation fees for medical officers in private hospital emergency departments at between RM30 and RM125.*

**Datuk Dr Kalwinder Singh Khaira**  
President, Malaysian Medical Association

“Strengthening the private GP sector as the first point of care will also help reduce overall healthcare costs by improving patient referrals and reducing unnecessary hospital visits,” he said.

“In 2015, the health ministry acknowledged that GP consultation fees should be aligned with this range, yet it was never implemented due to non-technical reasons,” he said.

It was reported yesterday that the health ministry was reviewing consultation fees for private general practitioners, which has remained unchanged for three decades.

In a written parliamentary reply, health minister Dzulkefly Ahmad said his ministry was collaborating with the statistics department to conduct simulations and determine a suitable price range.

“The ministry is in the process of reviewing consultation fees for private general practitioners, as these rates have not been revised since 2006,” he said, adding the review would also consider the impact of any fee adjustment on the consumer price index

## MOTORCYCLIST HIGHWAY SAFETY A PRESSING CONCERN

The Sun, 10 March 2025

Experts say strict enforcement, such as use of automated cameras, increased patrols to penalise illegal parking and non-emergency use, necessary to curb bike related deaths

**Muhammad Zaly said one key initiative is the expansion of dedicated motorcycle lanes on state and federal roads to separate from larger vehicles, minimising the risks of air drift and collisions. – ADAM AMIR HAMZAH/ THESUN**



**PETALING JAYA:** Highway safety remains a pressing concern in Malaysia, particularly for motorcyclists, who account for 70 out of every 100 road fatalities annually.

Universiti Teknologi Malaysia Research Institute for Sustainable Environment director Prof Ts Dr Muhammad Zaly Shah Muhammad Hussein told theSun that between 2019 and 2023, there were 829 motorcycle crashes on three major highways, all with dedicated motorcycle lanes namely the Federal Highway, Keras Expressway (Shah Alam Expressway) and the Guthrie Corridor Expressway.

“Road traffic crashes remain the leading cause of accident deaths in Malaysia, claiming over 6,500 lives annually.

Existing safety measures such as speed cameras and rumble strips have significantly reduced crashes. However, enforcement inconsistencies and road design limitations continue to contribute to motorcycle-related fatalities,” said Muhammad Zaly, who is also Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport Malaysia president.

He was referring to a road crash on Feb 18 where a 29-year-old nurse Nurul Ilham Nordin lost her life on the Kajang-Silk Highway.

She crashed her motorcycle into a lorry that was parked on the emergency lane, and subsequently was ran over by two other vehicles.

Muhammad Zaly said under Rule 53(1) of the Road Traffic Rules 1959, emergency lanes are strictly reserved for genuine emergencies such as breakdowns or accidents.

## MOTORCYCLIST HIGHWAY SAFETY A PRESSING CONCERN

The Sun, 10 March 2025

He said Malaysia's Road Safety Plan (2022–2030) aims to reduce road fatalities by half through infrastructure improvements and stronger enforcement.

“One key initiative is the expansion of dedicated motorcycle lanes on state and federal roads to separate motorcycles from larger vehicles, minimising the risks of air drift and collisions. However, maintenance and enforcement challenges remain a concern,” he said.

To further enhance road safety, the Malaysian Highway Authority has announced an expansion of restrictions on heavy vehicles entering selected Klang Valley highways during peak hours, effective Feb 19 this year.

Heavy vehicles will be banned from these highways on weekdays between 6.30am and 9.30am and 4.30pm and 7.30pm to reduce congestion and improve safety.

Exemptions will be granted for emergency and enforcement services, cleaning and waste disposal, and highway maintenance.

Muhammad Zaly suggested extending these restrictions to all major city highways, particularly those with high motorcycle traffic, to further enhance road safety.

Meanwhile, Universiti Putra Malaysia Head of the Road Safety Research Centre assoc prof Dr Law Teik Hua said poor visibility, especially at night or in bad weather, further increases the dangers for motorcyclists.

**“Staying in main lanes is generally safer if motorcyclists maintain safe speeds, avoid blind spots, and use proper signalling.”**

Law emphasised that strict enforcement measures are necessary to address these risks, including the use of automated cameras and increased patrols to penalise illegal parking and non-emergency use.

Motorcyclists face multiple dangers on highways, including speed disparities with larger vehicles, lane splitting, poor visibility, and road hazards such as potholes and oil spills.

“To mitigate these risks, it is crucial to wear helmets, reflective jackets, and protective gear, as well as avoid vehicle blind spots, use headlights during the day, maintain a safe following distance, and undergo advanced rider training programmes.”

He said while motorcycles are banned from some expressways, such as at the PLUS highway, enforcement remains weak.

“Stricter measures such as mandatory safety gear checks, dedicated motorcycle lanes, and speed harmonisation are needed to ensure the safety of all road users,” he said.

Law recommended expanding dedicated motorcycle lanes, citing Brazil's “blue lane” model, which has resulted in a 40% reduction in motorcycle fatalities.

He also suggested additional measures such as installing barriers to prevent unauthorised use of emergency lanes, introducing AI surveillance to detect and penalise illegal parking, and launching public education campaigns to raise awareness about risks of reckless riding, and stopping on highways.

Due to their speed and size mismatches with other vehicles, motorcycles face inherent risks on expressways.

Law emphasised that emergency lanes should remain strictly for emergencies and not be used as alternative routes for motorcycles.



## BIM AND PKKUM JOIN FORCES TO SUPPORT UNDERPRIVILEGED CHILDREN THROUGH THE “CHILDREN BACK TO SCHOOL” PROJECT 2025

Newshubasia.com, 22 March 2025



The beneficiaries come from families struggling with homelessness, unemployment, drug addiction, and informal employment, limiting their access to education. Additionally, some lack identification documents or legal citizenship status, further complicating their ability to receive assistance.

To commemorate this initiative, BIM and PKKUM hosted a special Iftar event at PKKUM's centre in Chow Kit supported by CILTM Pahang Section, WiLAT Malaysia and Synergy Connect Holdings bringing together BIM representatives, PKKUM volunteers, children, and their guardians. Attended by 70 participants, the event featured a speech by BIM President, the official handover of school uniforms, and a special Duit Raya contribution. The gathering aimed to uplift the children and provide them with encouragement for the upcoming school.

Balai Ikhtisas Malaysia (BIM), in collaboration with Pertubuhan Kesihatan dan Kebajikan Umum Malaysia (PKKUM), to support the “Children Back to School” project to assist 21 underprivileged children in preparing for the new academic year. The initiative, held in conjunction with Ramadan, provides school uniforms and essential aid to children facing severe socio-economic challenges.

## BIM AND PKKUM JOIN FORCES TO SUPPORT UNDERPRIVILEGED CHILDREN THROUGH THE “CHILDREN BACK TO SCHOOL” PROJECT 2025

Newshubasia.com, 22 March 2025

BIM has pledged to sponsor school uniforms for all 21 children and cover meal expenses for the iftar event. This initiative aligns with BIM's commitment to education, youth development, and social empowerment.

“At BIM, we believe that every child deserves access to education, regardless of their background. By providing school uniforms and celebrating Ramadan with them, we hope to instill a sense of belonging, confidence, and motivation in these children,” said Prof. ChM Dr. Juan Joon Ching, President of BIM.



Andrew Tan, Vice President and Head of Welfare at BIM, underscored the importance of collective responsibility in addressing education disparities.

“Education is a fundamental right, and no child should be denied it due to financial constraints. Through this initiative, we are not just providing school uniforms—we are giving them hope for a brighter future. BIM remains committed to championing such causes and collaborating with partners like PKKUM to drive meaningful change.”

PKKUM's Founder, Elisha Kor Krishnan, expressed gratitude for BIM's support, emphasising its transformative impact.

“The partnership with BIM has made a tremendous impact. These children face unimaginable hardships, yet they have a strong desire to learn and build a better future. With BIM's support, we are ensuring that no child is left behind.

BIM hopes this initiative will inspire more organisations and individuals to step forward in supporting marginalised communities.

Moving forward, BIM and PKKUM plan to develop further programs that enhance access to education, healthcare, and community welfare, ensuring a sustainable impact on society.

Source: *Balai Ikhtisas Malaysia*



## ADOPT SMART FARMING TO DRIVE LONG TERM GROWTH OF THE AGRICULTURE SECTOR

NST, 25 February 2025

KUALA LUMPUR: The government is calling on industry players to adopt smart farming technologies and implement sustainability-driven practices to enhance the resilience and ensure the long-term growth of Malaysia's agriculture sector.

Deputy Minister of Plantation and Commodities urged industry players to explore innovative solutions, including precision agriculture, eco-friendly farming inputs, and modern techniques, to boost productivity and build a more resilient, sustainable future.

"According to the Department of Statistics Malaysia (DOSM), the agriculture sector, including agri-commodities, contributed RM25.9 billion to the national GDP in the fourth quarter of 2024, with the palm oil industry accounting for 38.5 per cent of this figure.

"As the global landscape evolves, we must embrace smart farming, promote agri-technology investments, and support innovation to strengthen this sector," he said in a statement in conjunction with PAKAR Pertanian Expo 2025.

*The government is calling on industry players to adopt smart farming technologies and implement sustainability-driven practices.*



Meanwhile, Chan also emphasised the government's role in improving the industry, with 600 Digital AgTech systems by the Malaysia Digital Economy Corporation (MDEC) successfully implemented in 2024.

This has provided 30,000 agribusiness entrepreneurs with digitalisation training in Internet of Things (IoT) and Artificial Intelligence (AI) technologies, he said.

Pakar Pertanian Expo 2025 kicked off today at MAEPS Serdang with a powerful message on the future of agriculture, bringing together farmers, agropreneurs, industry leaders, and policymakers to explore the latest advancements shaping the industry.

PAKAR Pertanian Expo 2025 is Malaysia's largest and most comprehensive agricultural trade event, featuring 218 booths, 126 exhibitors, and 630 local and international brands across a 1,400 sqm exhibition space.

Attendees can explore innovations across multiple sectors, from IoT-driven smart farming and aquaculture to sustainable food processing and advanced machinery. Hands-on workshops,

business matchmaking sessions, and the highly anticipated RAAI 2025 Conference further provide a platform for learning and collaboration among industry players

8tivation Studio Sdn Bhd chief operating officer, the co-organiser of Pakar Pertanian Expo, James Lim, said Pakar Pertanian Expo 2025 is more than just an exhibition.

Lim highlighted the expo's unique ability to unite key players across the agriculture, aquaculture, and livestock sectors, fostering technology adoption, industry growth, and international trade partnerships.

"It is a platform for progress, innovation, and business opportunities in agriculture," he said.

As the expo continues over the next two days, visitors can expect a packed schedule of live demonstrations, expert-led panel discussions, business networking sessions, and interactive activities, all designed to empower farmers and agropreneurs with the knowledge and tools to thrive in a rapidly changing industry.



Kosmo, 5 March 2025



- Malaysian of Social Impact Assessment (MSIA)
- Association of Consulting Quantity Surveyors Malaysia (ACQSM)

