



# LATAR NEWS RELEASE

## LATAR EXPRESSWAY RECORDS ITS FIRST MILLION MOTORISTS

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### **Evidence that the need for an expressway to connect Kuala Lumpur and Kuala Selangor is much welcomed and justified**

KUALA LUMPUR --- Over one million motorists have tried and enjoyed the LATAR Expressway since its official opening by the Minister of Works Datuk Shaziman bin Abu Mansor on 23 June this year, thanks to the toll-free experience provided by the concessionaire KL-Kuala Selangor Expressway Berhad.

LATAR Expressway links Kuala Lumpur via Templer's Park in the Gombak district with Ijok in the Kuala Selangor district via a 33 km dual carriageway in a mere 18 minutes. Prior to this, the route from Kuala Lumpur to Kuala Selangor on the Jalan Sungai Buloh-Kuala Selangor (Federal Road 54) would take 90 minutes.

"Since its opening on 23 June to 31 July 2011, one million motorists passed through our four toll plazas. The expressway has certainly proven its welcome by the communities here, justifying its existence to connect the many townships and villages that it links with to Rawang, Selayang, Petaling Jaya and Kuala Lumpur," said KL-Kuala Selangor Expressway Berhad Chief Executive Officer Amran Amir.

Evidence tracked by the expressway's state-of-the-art Intelligent Transportation System (ITS), has shown that LATAR Expressway has provided much needed cheer and connectivity to several townships such as Kuala Selangor, Assam Jawa, Ijok, Bestari Jaya (Batang Berjuntai), Kota Puteri, Puncak Alam, Shah Alam, Bukit Jelutong, Sungai Buloh, Kundang, Rawang and Selayang allowing for a faster, safer choice between the townships as well as to the cities of Petaling Jaya and Kuala Lumpur.

LATAR Expressway has provided tremendous benefits within its realm. It has awoken the dormant developers who have substantial land banks to ignite new township developments. It has also provided local industries the path for quicker deliveries and mobility.

"We can see that the economic scenario here has been invigorated now that the expressway has opened avenues for easy reach, time saving and fuel-efficiency benefits. We are confident that LATAR Expressway will continue to be fully fondly utilised"

"The bulk of our traffic comes from all these townships seeking to reach Kuala Lumpur, Petaling Jaya and Selayang in more efficient manner during work hours on weekdays while weekend traffic throughput peaks have been the enthusiastic traffic coming in from Kuala Lumpur and Petaling Jaya into these townships for leisure," added Amran.

The phenomenal throughput has also resulted in large numbers flocking to Kuala Selangor to enjoy the seafood in Pasir Penambang as well as the touristic spots at Bukit Malawati where one can find the unique golden monkey colony, the awe-inspiring flight of eagles, the lighthouse, as well as the historic past of Kuala Selangor when it used to be the capital of Selangor.

By night, Kampung Kuantan in Kuala Selangor proves a great delight offering locals and tourists the unique view of frenzied fireflies in abundance in their unique remote habitat.

"Interestingly, the LATAR Expressway has upped commerce, trade and tourism for many in the corridors that the expressway touches. Businesses are thriving and we are delighted that LATAR Expressway has made an impact on the lives of so many people and its existence has been justified. We are confident that LATAR Expressway will be an imperative essential in the lives of the many communities here for a faster and safer choice," added Amran.

LATAR Expressway also provides ready access into the PLUS North-South Highway, the Guthrie Corridor Expressway and the West Coast Highway when it is complete.

"If you have not tried the LATAR Expressway, we encourage you to take a drive today. It's toll-free until 31 August."

#### ABOUT KL-KUALA SELANGOR EXPRESSWAY BERHAD

KL-Kuala Selangor Expressway Berhad (KLSEB) is the concessionaire for the KL-Kuala Selangor Expressway (LATAR Expressway). The Company, formerly known as Lebuhraya Assamjawa Taman Rimba Bhd ('LATAR'), was incorporated in 1996. KLSEB is a subsidiary of Bina Puri Holdings Berhad (50%) and Rafulin Holdings Sdn Bhd through its wholly-owned subsidiary Arena Irama Sdn Bhd (50%).

Construction of the LATAR KL-Kuala Selangor Expressway commenced in 2008 when a supplemental concession agreement was signed on 28 February 2008 with the Ministry of Works representing the Government of Malaysia.

The Company achieved financial close in October 2008 with a total of RM1.04 billion loan from Bank Pembangunan Malaysia and the Islamic Development Bank.

The Company has a 40-year concession on the LATAR Expressway. The concession was awarded on a Build-Operate-Transfer (BOT) scheme in which the Company is responsible to finance, design, construct, operate and maintain the expressway.

NEWS RELEASE prepared and issued on behalf of KL-Kuala Selangor Expressway Berhad by public relations consulting firms - GRA Communications Sdn Bhd and Prestige Communications Sdn Bhd. FOR MORE INFORMATION, please contact Surati Sujor at +6013 2660207 of KL-Kuala Selangor Expressway Berhad OR Ghazalie Abdullah at +6017 3361090



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