



Akmal Nasrullah receiving a souvenir from Yeow (right) as Firdaus (left) looks on.

A solid second year

MDA 2023 continues its strong run

WELCOMING the achievements of the property industry for the second year since its debut, the Malaysia Developer Awards (MDA) 2023 returned on August 24 with a grand ceremony of pomp and performance. The celebration took place at the M Resort and Hotel, Kuala Lumpur, graced by guest of honour, Deputy Local Government Development Minister Akmal Nasrullah Mohd Nasir.

Alongside Akmal Nasrullah were Star Media Group chief executive officer Alex Yeow and chief business officer Lydia Wang, FIABCI-Malaysia president Datuk Firdaus Musa and secretary-general Datuk Hoe Mee Ling, Bursa Malaysia Bhd chairman Tan Sri Abdul Wahid Omar and Klang Municipal Council president Noraini Roslan.

Held in recognition of the progress made by the property industry, the Malaysia Developer Awards saw a sweeping blend of ambitious up-and-comers and established names at the dinner.

Awarding 28 recipients, each developer brought with them their own wealth of experiences and approach to the industry with which they had won their respective awards. There were a total of six categories this year, under the prime categories of Top-of-the-Chart

Awards and the Special Awards.

The Special Awards comprised the Rising Star Award, Transformation Award, International Award, and the latest category, the Joint Development Award.

The Rising Star Award aims to recognise the efforts of up-and-coming developers who have managed to set themselves apart from the rest of their peers, displaying strength, leadership and potential despite their youth. The award was given to Eupre Corporation Bhd, OCR Group Bhd and UMW Development Sdn Bhd.

Targeting developers who have rescued abandoned projects, rejuvenated old and dilapidated buildings or converted unused land into grand developments, i-Berhad was the sole recipient of the Transformation Award.

The International Award, which honours Malaysian developers who have managed to brace against the challenges and thrive overseas, was bestowed to the Battersea Power Station in London. The project was undertaken by the Battersea Power Station Malaysia Sdn Bhd, a joint venture between Sime Darby Property Bhd, SP Setia Bhd and the Employees Provident Fund (EPF).

Another recipient of the International Award is IOI Properties Group Bhd, for its IOI Palm City project in Xiamen, China.

Aiming to acknowledge the efforts of joint developments, the Joint Development Award aims to highlight projects that have combined the scale and expertise of multiple developers to create masterful properties.

The award was given to Bukit Bintang City Centre, a joint venture between UDA Holdings Bhd, EcoWorld Development Group Bhd (EcoWorld) and EPF.

For their work on Stonor 3 KLCC, Tan & Tan Developments were also awarded the Joint Development Award.

With respect to the Top-of-the-Chart Awards under the Top 10 for Market Capitalisation of RM1bil and above, IOI Properties Group bags the number one spot. OSK Holdings Bhd earns the second rank, with Matrix Concepts Holdings Bhd, Malaysian Resources Corporation Bhd, HCK Capital Group Bhd, Mah Sing Group Bhd, UEM Sunrise Bhd, IJM Corporation Bhd (IJM Land Bhd), Sime Darby Property Bhd, as well as IGB Bhd and Tropicana Corporation Bhd.

IGB Bhd and Tropicana Corporation Bhd tied for the tenth position.

Under Top-of-the-Chart Awards, developers will find new subcategories; Best in Quantitative for Market Capitalisation of RM1bil and above and Best in Qualitative for Market Capitalisation of RM1bil and above awards.

The Best in Quantitative for Market Capitalisation of RM1bil and above award was awarded to IOI Properties Group Bhd. The Best in Qualitative for Market Capitalisation of RM1bil and above award was awarded to Sime Darby Property Bhd.

As for the Top 5 for Market Capitalisation of below RM1bil, NCT Alliance Bhd, Paramount Corporation Bhd, Glomac Bhd, LBS Bina Group Bhd and JKG Land Bhd clinched their place for these awards.

NCT Alliance Bhd earned itself the Best Quantitative for Market Capitalisation below RM1bil award, while the Best Qualitative for Market Capitalisation of below RM1bil award was granted to Paramount Corporation Bhd.

The judging panel consisted of ten industry experts from a variety of disciplines, including valuers and estate agents. With Bursa Malaysia Bhd chairman Tan Sri Abdul Wahid Omar and Klang Municipal Council president Noraini Roslan as chief judges, each developer is evaluated on a qualitative and quantitative scale for an equitable and all-encompassing evaluation.

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"It is encouraging to observe that certain property developers are adeptly catering to this demand within strategic locations and ensuring timely project completions. These endeavours signify a positive trajectory for Malaysia's property landscape and demonstrate that the right market alignment, paired with well-executed initiatives, is yielding favourable outcomes."

"As we continue to progress, I look forward to seeing the innovation of the Malaysian real estate industry and the exchange of ideas among a group of dynamic, ambitious professionals."

SEE PAGE 6 >



Taking a group photo with the guest of honour Akmal Nasrullah (centre). From left are Hoe, Noraini, Yeow, Firdaus, Abdul Wahid and Lydia.

> FROM PAGE 5

Excerpts from the speeches

Deputy Local Government Development Minister
Akmal Nasrullah Mohd Nasir

"Across the world, we are seeing higher temperatures and rising sea levels; Malaysia itself is no stranger to heat waves. This brings us to the subject of climate change, which is a big priority that requires the collaboration of both the public and private spheres to find solutions."

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Star Media Group chief executive officer
Alex Yeow

"The achievements of property developers here tonight are the result of their utmost dedication, vision and unwavering commitment to excellence."

"They possess the unique ability to envision possibilities where others see limitations. Challenges aside, they have remained resilient and diligent in powering innovation and creativity in their various projects."

"The MDA actually serves as a catalyst for innovation, inspiring both emerging and established developers to push boundaries, embark on ambitious endeavours, and lead the way in driving progress in the realm of property and development on a global scale. It is also our way of showcasing the accomplishments of these exceptional organisations and amplifying their voices through the various platforms available at Star Media Group."

"At this juncture, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to our partners, sponsors, and the organising team for their unwavering support and commitment to organising this gala night. Without their dedication, this event would not have been possible."

"To the esteemed panel of judges, who have each brought their expertise to the table, drawing from diverse backgrounds, I give my sincere thanks. They have played an instrumental role in upholding, sustaining and maintaining MDA's highest judging standards and strict criteria."

FIABCI-Malaysian president
Datuk Firdaus Musa

"Inaugurated in 2022, The Malaysia Developer Awards (MDA) was meticulously crafted to provide a credible and holistic benchmarking of the industry for property developers and consumers alike."

"FIABCI-Malaysia is committed to expanding our horizons by exploring opportunities to reach out to more members from other states. Our reach extends beyond geographic boundaries, and by building bridges across regions, we can harness the diversity of ideas, expertise, and experiences that each state brings to the table."

"To ensure this becomes a reality, one of our primary focuses moving forward is enhancing our participation with the

government on real estate matters. The government plays a pivotal role in shaping policies, regulations, and initiatives that impact our industry."

"We believe that by actively engaging with governmental bodies, we can contribute our insights and expertise to influence decisions that align with our shared vision of a dynamic and sustainable real estate landscape."

"As we look ahead, we envision a Malaysia where innovation and collaboration will be a key factor in driving progress. A Malaysia where the real estate sector isn't just about buildings and structures, but about transforming lives and communities."

All ready for winners and guests as the interior of the ballroom is fully lit up.

