

RM45mil youth centre to be built in Paya Keladi

KEPALA BATAS: A new youth centre worth RM45mil will be developed in a 10ha area in Paya Keladi and is expected to be completed in two years.

Housing and Local Government Minister Datuk Seri Reezal Merican Naina Merican, who is the Kepala Batas MP, said the construction cost had been approved.

"The youth centre will have facilities for recreational activities. It will have a modern mini-stadium equipped with floodlights, synthetic pitch, a track, a regular field for race training and an indoor arena for basketball and badminton.

"There is also an esport (electron-

ic sports) arena that will have international standard facilities. If there is any tournament in Penang at the international level, then it can be organised at this centre," he said after launching the eSports Youth Cabin at the Wisma Umno here on Saturday night.

Reezal Merican said the youth centre would also be equipped with accommodation or cabin-like hostels as well as a "hipster" cafe.

"The youth centre will enable Kepala Batas to be equipped with various facilities that will be user-friendly to young people.

"I expect the groundbreaking ceremony for the project to be carried



out this year," he said.

Commenting on the eSport Youth Cabin, the minister said the initiative was launched to make Kepala

Batas youth-friendly, as well as to encourage grassroots sports talent development.

"I hope this initiative will not

only inject interest but also encourage youths here to be more committed in this high-value industry," he said. — Bernama

Project approved:

Reezal Merican (centre) expects the groundbreaking for the youth centre to be carried out this year. — LIM BENG TATT/The Star

More vehicles than people 'not true'

Figures included colonial-era automobiles, says former minister Liow

PETALING JAYA: It is not true that there are more vehicles in the country than people, says former transport minister Tan Sri Liow Tiong Lai (pic).

He said it was an exaggeration to claim there were 33 million vehicles compared to the current population as the figures took into account old British colonial era vehicles.

He expressed doubt over a news report which claimed that the num-

ber of vehicles were more than Malaysia's population.

"I am sure the number of vehicles on the road is not more than the population as it included the registered vehicles from the British colonial days.

"The report does not portray the true picture of the vehicle population," a news portal quoted him as saying yesterday.



Liow was commenting on the report which quoted a road safety expert saying that the number of vehicles in the country has overtaken the human population, with an increase of at least a million vehicles annually since 2019.

Road safety expert, Prof Dr Kulanthayan KC Mani of Universiti Putra Malaysia, said there were 33.3 million registered

vehicles nationwide last year versus the human population, which stood at 32.6 million.

The news portal also quoted Road Transport Department (JPJ) director-general Datuk Zailani Hashim as saying that the department had handled 33.05 million vehicles in the past 75 years since it was incorporated as Registrar and Inspector of Motor Vehicles.

Liow said the government should put the facts right and JPJ should

provide the true picture by using the latest road tax renewal records to confirm the numbers.

He added that a "death certificate" for inactive or dormant vehicles could also be created to know exactly the number of active vehicles in the country.

Former Road Safety Department director-general Abd Ghafar Yusof said it was normal to include pre-Merdeka numbers in statistics to reflect the number of vehicles.

YTL LAND WINS BIG ON THE WORLD STAGE

PARIS: YTL Land and Development Bhd won the World Gold Award in the Residential (High Rise) Category at the FIABCI World Prix d'Excellence Awards 2022 for its project The Fennel at Sentul East in Kuala Lumpur.

The architectural icon stands as a mark of YTL Land's vision to spearhead the renewal and transformation of the township into a vibrant cosmopolitan hub, while keeping the rich heritage of Sentul's century old-railway history.

"We are humbled by this internationally renowned mark of excellence for The Fennel, which stood out against outstanding projects by distinguished property developers across the globe," said managing director Datuk Dr Yeoh Seok Kian, who received the award in Paris on June 9.

"A World Gold Award for The Fennel embodies the pioneering spirit, which is very much a hallmark of YTL Land in creating living environments that are innovative, sustainable and inviting to meet the needs of our growing young urban population," he said.

The FIABCI World Prix d'Excellence Awards recognise projects that best embody excellence in all real estate disciplines involved in their creation. Each award-winning project captures and epitomises the FIABCI ideal of providing society with the optimal solution to its property needs.

Yeoh added that the journey towards the accomplishment of The Fennel was one of unwavering commitment to achieve excellence across all aspects of design and construction, relentless determination to innovate and overcome design and construction challenges, all of which have now become milestones for the YTL Land team.

"Our sincere gratitude also goes out to all our home buyers and loyal supporters who share our vision for the urban renewal of Sentul. Naturally, we owe this remarkable success of The Fennel to their invaluable support all these years.

"As we embark on upcoming projects, our continuous pursuit of excellence in design and innovation, adoption of digital technology solutions, while upholding sustainability initiatives will be the driving force to push the

The Fennel at Sentul East wins gold at the FIABCI World Prix d'Excellence Awards 2022



Award-winning residential units, The Fennel at Sentul East in Kuala Lumpur wins big at FIABCI World Prix d'Excellence Awards 2022.

boundaries of future residential and commercial architecture.

"Leveraging on this, exciting initiatives in the pipeline will continue to build on YTL Land's legacy of surpassing industry benchmarks in creating unique lifestyle propositions to meet the evolving needs of a new generation of property buyers," he said.

The four iconic zigzagging towers of The Fennel stand gracefully in the urban township of Sentul East and act as a departure from conventional high-rise residential projects in KL city.

YTL Land's efforts towards creating inspir-

ing spaces and embracing sustainability has been featured prominently in the development's lush tropical environment.

With almost 40% of the site area dedicated to open spaces, comprising verdant greens and extensive landscaping, the project is further enhanced by some 1,200 trees that have been planted and nurtured within the development.

The Fennel is no stranger to accolades. In March 2022, it emerged as the winner in the Residential (High Rise) Category of the Malaysia Property Award 2021 by FIABCI Malaysian Chapter.

It also won two awards in the PropertyGuru Asia Property Awards (Malaysia) in 2018.

Meanwhile, it also nabbed the Best Condo Development (Klang Valley) category, followed by a second win in the Best Condo Development (Malaysia) category, which is a special award to honour the best condominium development under the Best of Malaysia Awards.

YTL Land's developments go beyond meeting functional needs; it aims to infuse Sentul with the much-needed new life, zest and energy to stimulate its urban renewal in line with the overarching Sentul masterplan.