

TEKS UCAPAN
YB DATO' SRI HAJI FADILLAH BIN HAJI YUSOF
MENTERI KANAN KERJA RAYA

SEMPENA

Majlis Perasmian
Projek Rangkaian Digital Lebuhraya Dan Majlis Menandatangani
Perjanjian Persefahaman Rakan Strategik MSA Resources Sdn. Bhd.

30 JUN 2022

Hotel Aloft, Kuala Lumpur

Bismillahirrahmanirrahim

SALUTASI

Assalamualaikum warahmatullahi wabarakatuh, Salam Sejahtera dan Salam
Keluarga Malaysia

1. Alhamdulillah, bersyukur kita ke hadrat Allah Subhanahu Wa Ta'ala kerana dengan limpah kurnia dan izin-Nya juga, pada hari ini kita diberi ruang dan peluang untuk bersama-sama hadir di Majlis Perasmian Projek Rangkaian Digital Lebuhraya dan Majlis Menandatangani Perjanjian Persefahaman Rakan Strategik MSA Resources Sendirian Berhad.

2. Syabas dan tahniah saya ucapkan kepada pihak penganjur majlis ini iaitu MSA Resources Sendirian Berhad (MSAR) di atas kejayaan menganjurkan majlis pada hari ini.

Para hadirin yang saya hormati sekalian,

3. Pada tahun 2016, Kementerian Kerja Raya telah meluluskan Projek Rangkaian Digital Lebuh Raya kepada MSAR dengan diberikan hak izin untuk membina dan mengendalikan kabel gentian fiber optik di sepanjang lebuh raya di bawah seliaan Lembaga Lebuhraya Malaysia (LLM). Projek ini telah dilaksanakan sejak tahun 2019 dan dijangka siap pada Disember 2022.

4. Pelaksanaan projek ini adalah bertepatan dan selaras dengan Dasar Pendigitalan Negara dan Rancangan Malaysia Kedua Belas (RMKe-12) di bawah Unit Perancang Ekonomi Jabatan Perdana Menteri (EPU, JPM) serta Program Pelan Jalinan Digital Negara (JENDELA) di bawah Kementerian Komunikasi dan Multimedia (KKMM). Ianya menumpukan kepada pemerksaan jaringan kesalinghubungan rakyat dan negara melalui pembinaan infrastruktur digital bagi memperluas liputan jalur lebar talian tetap. Ia juga akan meningkatkan dan memperkuuhkan penyampaian perkhidmatan awam atas talian seperti perkhidmatan kesihatan awam, akses terus kepada pendidikan, sistem pengangkutan dan logistik.

5. Selain itu, ketersediaan infrastruktur rangkaian digital, liputan rangkaian jalur lebar, akses terbuka dan penawaran harga yang kompetitif daripada kesemua penyedia telekomunikasi akan memberikan manfaat bukan sahaja kepada masyarakat setempat tetapi juga perusahaan kecil dan sederhana (PKS) serta sektor perkhidmatan yang lain. Perniagaan secara bersemuka pula akan beralih kepada perniagaan yang berplatformkan digital dan mengurangkan sempadan perniagaan antara satu tempat ke tempat yang lain.

Ini secara tidak langsung, akan memberikan pelbagai pilihan barang dan perkhidmatan dengan harga yang optimum dan berkualiti tinggi kepada rakyat.

Para hadirin yang saya hormati sekalian, izinkan saya untuk meneruskan ucapan ini dalam Bahasa Inggeris agar rakan-rakan kita dari luar negara yang ada bersama-sama kita pada hari ini akan turut meraikan kejayaan ini.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

6. As we gather here to celebrate the inauguration of the Highway Digital Network Project and the Signing Ceremony of the Memorandum of Understanding between MSA Resources Private Limited and its Strategic Partners, we are proud to be part of this important milestone in digitising Malaysia.

7. With the installation of fibre optic cables along all our highway network, Malaysia is set to become a comprehensive data hub. It is envisaged that this initiative aims to connect with other data centres in Singapore and Thailand which is a strategic alignment of the ASEAN region. Ultimately, we are hopeful that local and international investors will be interested to invest in our digital network moving forward.

8. I am confident this project will spur greater foreign investments by global industry giants in the form of new data centers driven by the readiness and availability of highly secured telecommunications infrastructure along our nation's highway network.. This new infrastructure will not only support the expansion of broadband coverage by our local operators but attract international Over-the-Top (OTT) providers to establish their "Point of Presence" (PoP) data centers in Malaysia.

9. I was informed that a total of four thousand (4,000) Points of Interconnect (POI) will be built and connected to all major cities and rural areas which will improve connectivity in all districts and states in the country.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

10. In ensuring the safety, comfort and good user experience of highway users, MSAR will provide fibre optic cables to the Malaysian Highway Authority (LLM) and its highway concessionaires to help enhance and expand the use of Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) systems, apart from free Wi-Fi facilities at the Rest & Rehabilitation (R&R) areas along highways.

11. This fibre optic network infrastructure when constructed, can bring tremendous benefits in the development of the Internet of Things (IOT) , cybersecurity, big data analytics, artificial intelligence (AI) and endless applications in this globalised interconnected space.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

12. I was further informed that MSAR is a Bumiputera owned company staffed by professionals who are competent and experienced in the field of telecommunication. This project is to be funded by private shareholders through internal funds and MIDF Amanah Investment Bank. Strategically, this project has been identified by the Bumiputera Agenda Leading Unit (TERAJU) under the Prime Minister's Department as one of the potential contributor to the progress of the Bumiputera digital economy under the Bumiputera Empowerment Agenda.

13. Since August 2020, MSAR has embarked on installation works of the fibre optic cables from Johor Bahru to Cyberjaya and Kuala Lumpur which are

expected to be completed by August 2022, whereas installation works for the remaining alignment from Kuala Lumpur to Bukit Kayu Hitam are expected to be completed by December 2022. I have also been informed that recently, our nation's largest telecommunication operators, Telekom Malaysia Berhad and Maxis Communications Berhad are utilising MSAR's digital network infrastructure to increase their coverage and usage of their services in Johor.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

14. I am hopeful when the digital network infrastructure is ready and fully operational, our local telecommunications providers will be able to compete in providing sophisticated high-tech 5G services at affordable prices to the rakyat. With the 5G services covering urban and rural areas , the realisation of a truly digitised Malaysia can become a reality as we embrace the Industrial Revolution 4.0 (IR4.0) to make the country more competitive and relevant globally.

15. Hence , the transformation journey of digitisation and IR4.0 will make the usage of autonomous vehicles on roads and highways and AI in Intelligent Transport System (ITS) will be able to create new opportunities and contribute positively to our transportation system. Therefore, the Ministry of Works through LLM will facilitate this digital network infrastructure project together with other related agencies such as the Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission in making it a success.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

16. As it is still in the construction phase, I have directed LLM to continuously monitor this project to ensure the safety and comfort of highway users during this period. In this regards, the Government will always support the efforts of

local companies such as MSAR in providing the best telecommunication infrastructure facilities for the convenience of our people in ensuring the social wellbeing of an inclusive Keluarga Malaysia.

17. With this words, I would like to now officially inaugurate the Highway Digital Network Project.

Thank you