

**PRESS RELEASE**

**For Immediate Release**

**11 January 2023**

**OFFICIAL INAUGURATION OF MALAYSIA’S NEW ICONIC LANDMARK MENARA MERDEKA 118 BY DYMM SERI PADUKA BAGINDA YANG DI-PERTUAN AGONG**

*Set to become a global tourist destination showcasing Malaysia's rich heritage, diversity, and limitless potential*

**KUALA LUMPUR, 11 January 2024:** The much-anticipated Menara Merdeka 118, Malaysia’s new iconic architectural landmark, was officially inaugurated yesterday by DYMM Seri Paduka Baginda Yang di-Pertuan Agong Al-Sultan Abdullah Ri’ayatuddin Al-Mustafa Billah Shah. His Majesty was accompanied by the Raja Permaisuri Agong Tunku Azizah Aminah Maimunah Iskandariah.

Standing tall as a testament to Malaysia's rich heritage, diversity, and limitless potential, Merdeka 118 stands 678.9 metres high. Merdeka 118 is the tallest tower in Southeast Asia and the second tallest in the world.

Permodalan Nasional Berhad (PNB) Group Chairman, Raja Tan Sri Dato’ Seri Arshad Raja Tun Uda said the Merdeka 118 precinct development represents PNB's aspiration to uplift the financial lives of Malaysians across generations as well as a symbol of Malaysia’s progress and development as a nation.

“We are pleased that Merdeka 118 has been officially inaugurated and will form the catalyst for a new, exciting destination for Malaysians and international visitors. The components of the Merdeka 118 precinct have been carefully curated to attract visitors from far and near and will be on the must-see list of all visitors to Kuala Lumpur.

“We are also honoured a brand-new mosque, Masjid Al-Sultan Abdullah, with a capacity of 3000 people, was also inaugurated and have commenced daily *solat berjemaah,*” he said.

Menara Merdeka 118 comprises 84 floors of Premium Grade-A office space. The highest floors of Merdeka 118 will house a purpose-built observation deck and Malaysia’s first Park Hyatt hotel.

The Merdeka 118 tower sets unprecedented sustainability standards, aiming for the country's first triple-green platinum rating from Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED), Green Real Estate (GreenRE) and Green Building Index (GBI). In addition, the tower will also obtain WELL certification from the International WELL Building Institute Asia Pacific supporting the wellbeing of the tenants and the wider community.

In 2000, PNB acquired this 40-acre site, which is located within a historical enclave in the heart of Kuala Lumpur and includes two national historical landmarks – Stadium Merdeka and Stadium Negara, which make up 50 percent of the land area.

As the sole custodian of these national heritage sites, PNB has lovingly restored Stadium Merdeka to its original condition in 1957.

Raja Tan Sri Dato’ Seri Arshad said the Stadium Merdeka restoration works were done in collaboration with Badan Warisan Malaysia and Jabatan Warisan Negara, and has received the UNESCO Award of Excellence for Culture Heritage Conservation Programme.

“Merdeka 118 is geared towards generating positive impact on the surrounding communities by enhancing liveability, walkability and supporting local economic activity whilst celebrating and honouring the area’s historical and cultural heritage,” he said.

Raja Tan Sri Dato’ Seri Arshad the Merdeka 118 Community Grants Programme, launched in 2021, empowers the local community through fostering the development of resilient businesses, institutions, and community organisations.

“Building on the success of the Programme, it was expanded to Cycle Two in 2023, to drive positive change with the aim of widening the pool of beneficiaries within the Merdeka 118 precinct,” he said.

This grant is focused in four areas: business, sports, arts & culture, and education, and is targeted to create a vibrant inclusive community where everyone can flourish. Cycle Two supports eight exciting projects, reflecting the programme’s mission to foster impactful initiatives within the community.

The official launch of the Merdeka 118 tower concluded with the tower’s spectacular façade lighting display illuminating the night sky, symbolising hope, prosperity, and a promising future for Malaysia.

**- Ends -**

**Permodalan Nasional Berhad (PNB)**

Permodalan Nasional Berhad (PNB) is one of the largest fund management companies in Malaysia with assets under management (AUM) exceeding RM300 billion. PNB's portfolio covers strategic investments in Malaysia's leading corporates, global equities, private investments and real estate. For over four decades, we remain focused in contributing to the wealth of Bumiputeras and all Malaysians and are dedicated to fulfilling our purpose to uplift the financial lives of Malaysians across generations. We are committed to sustainability, responsible practices, and the creation of an inclusive future that benefits both our stakeholders and the communities we serve. For more information, please visit [www.pnb.com.my](http://www.pnb.com.my).

**About PNB Merdeka Ventures Sdn. Berhad (PNBMV)**

PNB Merdeka Ventures Sdn. Berhad was incorporated in June 2000 and is the landowner and sole custodian of both Stadium Merdeka and Stadium Negara. Both stadiums have been listed as “National Heritage” sites in October 2005 under the National Heritage Act 2005. Thereafter PNB Merdeka Ventures carried out meticulous conservation efforts, earning Stadium Merdeka the UNESCO Award of Excellence for Culture Heritage Conservation Programme (Asia Pacific) in 2008. [www.merdeka118.com](http://www.merdeka118.com)

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