



Minat Teguh Estate, Phase 1, Sabah

The Division is cautiously optimistic of its prospect in 2000 and expect to produce good results for the Group, barring prolonged bad weather conditions and poor prices.

EDUCATION

1999 marked the sixth year of the Group's venture into education. The year, indeed, was a significant year in the history of the International College Penang (ICP). It achieved its highest students enrolment, including a significant foreign presence, and also achieved a profit for the first time. Students from the College continue to perform very well, further enhancing the reputation of the institution.

ICP has established for itself a reputation for high quality education and internationally recognised programmes at pre-university, diploma and undergraduate levels. During the year, the College has

developed academic links with a highly accredited new partner in University of Middlesex. The College's 3+0 degree programme received approval from the Ministry of Education in September 1999 and will be launched in the year 2000. The 3+0 Bachelor of Commerce degree programme is in collaboration with the University of Western Sydney Macarthur. In its move towards education in information technology, the College introduced the Diploma in Information Technology programme in 1999. The College also has plans to introduce Diploma in Engineering in 2000 in order to widen the choice for its students.



First batch of TAFE NSW Diploma graduates at their graduation ceremony 1999



Tan Sri Dato' (Dr) Haji Murad bin Mohamad Noor presenting the International College Penang Scholarship Awards to the Minister of Education, Datuk Sri Najib bin Tun Abdul Razak, at the launch of The Star Education Fair 1999

The Group believes that the future of the industry lies in development of quality institutions with excellent programmes. To achieve these objectives and establish our country as a centre for educational excellence, rationalisation of industry and its vast number of players is needed. In keeping with this view, we have recently signed a memorandum of understanding with INTI Universal Holdings Berhad to merge the business of higher education at International College Penang.

INFRASTRUCTURE

The Group's current ventures in infrastructure projects are located offshore. In 1999, this division turned in a better-than-expected pre-tax profits of RM36.2 million, a significant increase of 141% over the 1998 figure of RM15.0 million.

From China, associate Guangdong Provincial Expressway Development Co Ltd, which operates several tolled expressways and bridges, recorded a net profit of RMB257 million for 1999, an 80% increase over that of 1998. Another associate Yangzhong Changjiang Great Bridge Co Ltd, which operates a tolled bridge near Nanjing, improved upon its level of profitability.



The Jiujiang Bridge of Fokai Expressway of Guangdong Provincial Expressway Development Co Ltd, China

In Argentina, Grupo Concesionaire del Oeste S.A. (GCO), a 20% associate, the concession holder of the 55.45 km Western Access Tollway Project in Buenos Aires, started its maiden contribution to the Group's results. The 7-month contribution recognised on the equity accounting basis amounted to RM8.7 million. The Group also made an exceptional gain of RM11.8 million when it placed out 30% of its holding in GCO in conjunction with GCO's initial public offering in July 1999.



The expanded Guangfo Expressway of Guangdong Provincial Expressway Development Co Ltd, China

From Vietnam, the Group's 36% associate Binh An Water Corporation Limited completed its 100,000 m³/day water treatment plant in Ho Chi Minh City and started commercial operation on 1 August 1999, thereby also contributing positively to the Group's results.

In India, through wholly-owned IJM Overseas Ventures Sdn Bhd, the Group holds a 50% equity interest in Gautami Power Pte Limited which in turn holds a concession to operate a 350 MW power plant in Andhra Pradesh, India. Construction of the power plant is expected to commence in the second half of 2000.

The Group expects the Infrastructure Division to perform well in 2000.



Chilakaluripet-Vijayawada Road Project, India: A temporary causeway / diversion constructed by IJM-Gayatri Joint Venture

Binh An Water Treatment Plant in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

