

# MRT Corp awards 3 contracts for station packages worth RM563m

## Investor interest seen for winning firms' stocks

by FARAH ADILLA

MASS Rapid Transit Corp Sdn Bhd (MRT Corp) has awarded three station packages to Trans Resources Corp Sdn Bhd (TRC), Ahmad Zaki Sdn Bhd (AZSB) and Apex Communication Sdn Bhd for the MRT Sungai Buloh-Kajang project with a total value of RM563 million.

The news of the contract awards resulted in AZSB's share price jumping four sen to 73 sen with 541,600

shares traded yesterday. Apex's parent company, TRC Synergy Bhd, gained one sen to 63 sen with 180,500 shares traded from 62 sen previously.

With the announcement, 40 out of a total of 85 tender packages for the MRT project have been awarded.

The consortium's chief executive officer Datuk Azhar Abdul Hamid said MRT Corp's One-Stop Procurement Committee (OSPC) had evaluated the submissions, and these awards were the best evaluated bids

from the shortlisted group.

"We expect the rest of the packages to be awarded before the end of the year," he said in a statement.

The awards were made following a sitting of the OSPC in Putrajaya, which was chaired by Minister of Finance II Datuk Seri Ahmad Husni Hanadzlah.

The OSPC awarded TRC with Package S1 for the construction and completion of elevated stations and

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other associated works at Sungai Buloh, Kampung Baru Sungai Buloh and Kota Damansara. The contract is worth RM283.7 million.

AZSB won the RM174.6 million Package S6 job, which entails the construction and completion of the Taman Suntext, Taman Cuepacs and Bandar Tun Hussein Onn elevated stations and other associated works.

Package S7, for the construction and completion of the Balakong and Taman Koperasi stations, was secured by Apex. The tender was valued at RM104.7 million.

"The three companies are being appointed as nominated sub contractors to the respective elevated civil works. MRT Corp will soon issue notices to the respective work package contractors to appoint the companies as nominated sub-contractors.

"The prices of the elevated civil works packages include the prices for station construction works," MRT Corp said.

All three packages were

open to 12 Bumiputera companies which had earlier prequalified to tender. For Package S1, eight of the 12 prequalified companies submitted tenders while for Package S6, 10 companies submitted tenders. For Package S7, seven companies submitted tenders.

MIDF Research Sdn Bhd construction analyst Iqbal Zainal, when contacted by *The Malaysian Reserve*, said that the news reinforces the research house's positive view on the construction sector, especially on the urgency by the government to speed-up the construction of public infrastructure projects.

He said most of the initial works of piling, land clearing and civil works, have already commenced in Semantan Portal, Sungai Buloh Depot, Cochrane and Pasar Rakyat.

"We believe there will be a lot of trading interest on these companies' stocks as these awards will certainly contribute positively to their earnings in the foreseeable future," he said.