



Mass Rapid Transit Corporation Sdn Bhd (902884V)

Tingkat 5, Menara I & P 1,

Tel: +60 3 2095 3030

No. 46, Jalan Dungun, Bukit Damansara,

Fax: +60 3 2095 2121

50490 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

MEDIA RELEASE

HUSBAND AND WIFE TEAM WINS MRT PROJECT BENCH DESIGN COMPETITION

Duo's design wins them RM10,000.00 in prize money

Kuala Lumpur, 3 May 2021: Husband and wife team, Encik Jaihar Jailani Ismail and Puan Noor Syahidah Abdullah have clinched the grand prize of TRANSEAT - The MRT Putrajaya Line Underground Stations Bench Design Competition, bringing home RM10,000 in prize money.

Their winning bench design, INFINITY, which is also the name the freelance industrial designer and academician couple from Johor Bahru gave to their team, was created to complement the architectural design of the MRT Putrajaya Line stations.

The benches will be installed at the platform of eight underground stations of the line.

The winners of TRANSEAT were announced in a simple ceremony held at the Mass Rapid Transit Corporation Sdn Bhd (MRT Corp) headquarters today.

Handing out the prizes to the winners were MRT Corp Chief Executive Officer Datuk Mohd Zarif Hashim.

Also present at the event were MRT Corp's MRT Putrajaya Line Project Director Dato' Amiruddin Ma'aris, Majlis Rekabentuk Malaysia (MRM) Director Encik Sulaiman Arshad and Persatuan Pereka Perindustrian Malaysia (PEREKA) Vice President Encik Zafri Zakaria Merican. MRM is the collaborator of the competition while PEREKA is the supporter.

TRANSEAT, which ran from 1 June 2020 till 30 July 2020, saw a total submission of 569 designs from 352 participants. The participants were made up of professionals, students and even general members of the public.

The competition was organised by MRT Corp to obtain the best design to be adopted for the benches of the MRT Putrajaya Line's eight underground stations by tapping the talents and creativity of all Malaysians.



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Commenting about their win, Jaihar and Syahidah expressed their gratitude to MRT Corp, MRM and PEREKA for the opportunity to put forward their design ideas and philosophy, through the creation of the Infinity Bench design.

“The Infinity Bench is an inclusive social bench that promotes design, art and culture,” said Jaihar. The design by freelance industrial designer Jaihar and academician Noor Syahidah also took into consideration the many functional aspects needed for a bench in an MRT station.

The first runner up was Encik Muhmmad Nazli Karamazaman whose traditional craft motives bench design won him RM 7,000.00 in prize money. Meanwhile, Mr Ng Wai How and Ms Yap Qiang Mei, who formed the team WHDY, took the second runner-up position. Their X-Seat bench design, based on the theme “Vibrancy”, won them RM5,000.00.

For the best submission by a student category, Encik Kamarul Azizi Kamarul Azhan, a student from Universiti Teknologi Malaysia, takes home RM5,000 for his design Koreusi. His design was based on the theme “Moulding Forms”.

Commenting on the competition, Amiruddin said he was overwhelmed by the high number of submissions received, as well as the high level of creativity of the entries.

“The designs submitted speak a lot about the abundance of talent among Malaysians. I am very happy that the MRT Putrajaya Line Bench Design Competition has provided a great platform for our local creative minds to showcase their talents,” said Amiruddin.

He added that the winning designers had successfully integrated elements of aesthetics, practicality and functionality.

“In deciding the winning design for the competition, it is important for it to be safe, sturdy and tough for heavy use at a busy MRT station. The designs proposed need to be able to have these key features,” added Amiruddin.

The first stage of evaluation shortlisted 10 designs from the 569 designs submitted, based on the combined scores from of a panel of judges from MRT Corp, MRM, PEREKA and MMC Gamuda KVMRT (PDP SSP) Sdn Bhd, the turnkey contractor for the MRT Putrajaya Line, as well as from an online poll among the employees of MRT Corp.

The final round of judging was then held on 15 December 2020 at the MRM Innovative Hall in Bukit Jalil, where the finalists presented their design to the panel of judges.

The MRT Putrajaya Line Bench Design Competition for the underground stations is the second to be organised by MRT Corp. The first Bench Design Competition was carried out in 2015 for the underground stations of the MRT Kajang Line.

Benches with the winning design will installed in eight underground stations of the MRT Putrajaya Line. s-end/-



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For media enquiries, please contact:

Mr Leong Shen-Li

MRT Corp

+6012-319 6602 / leong.shen-li@mymrt.com.my

Ms Amalina Ghazali

MRT Corp

+6016-215 4055 / amalina.ghazali@mymrt.com.my