

## Ireka bags RM163.9m hospital extension job in Johor

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KUALA LUMPUR (June 29): Ireka Corp Bhd's construction arm, Ireka Engineering & Construction Sdn Bhd (IEC), has bagged a RM163.9 million contract to build a 10-storey hospital extension block in Johor.

In a bourse filing today, the group said the contract was awarded by Regency Specialist Hospital Sdn Bhd. The project will commence on July 1 and is expected to be completed in 18 months.

"The construction works will include car parks, medical facilities, the main lobby, hospital facilities, hospital wards and medical suites. The Regency Specialist Hospital project is expected to contribute positively to earnings of Ireka for the financial year ahead," it said. Ireka managing director Datuk Lai Voon Hon said the contract came amid increased healthcare expenditure by the government. This, he said, augurs well for growth of the healthcare sector.

"The Regency Specialist Hospital contract is an opportunity for Ireka to build on its own track record of hospital construction. The group will also continue to leverage its 53-year track record and skilled multidisciplinary team to ensure it is well positioned to tender for more upcoming projects," he added.

According to Ireka, the group's current major projects include KaMi Mont Kiara, a residential project in Mont Kiara, Asta Enterprise Park in Kajang, and Rimbun Kasia — a five-parcel development project in Nilai, Negeri Sembilan.

Ireka's share price closed one sen higher at 37 sen today, giving it a market capitalisation of RM69.08 million.