

# Construction to stay Ireka's key earnings contributor

**KUALA LUMPUR:** Ireka Corp Bhd's construction segment, which contributes 90 per cent of earnings, will remain its main contributor for the next two years.

Group managing director Lai Voon Hon said the company's construction order book of RM1.4 billion was healthy, with RM760 million still outstanding.

He said the construction tender book over the last 12 months was valued about RM500 million to RM600 million.

"We are selective and target more profitable projects with higher margins," Lai said after the company's annual general meeting, here, yesterday.

On its property business, Lai said Ireka would be cautious in choosing the time to launch new projects as the segment faces challenges due to

economic uncertainties.

However, Ireka would proceed with its courtyard-home development projects in Nilai, Negri Sembilan, and multi-functional industrial office and warehouse development in Kajang, Selangor, amid good response, he said.

Lai said earnings contribution from property business would rise to 50:50 ratio against the construction sector by 2017 by leveraging on its landbank gross development value worth RM2 billion.

On its property investment in Vietnam, via a 23 per cent stake in associated company Aseana Properties Ltd (ASPL), Lai said the investment was doing well.

He hopes Ireka would start realising its investment in ASPL during the current financial year ending March 31 2016. **Bernama**