

ELEVATING WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT:

# MRCB AND CIDB'S TVET CRANE INITIATIVE

To enhance the construction industry's workforce, MRCB partnered with the Construction Industry Development Board (CIDB) to launch a Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) programme focused on crane operations. This collaboration aimed to address the pressing need for skilled labour in Malaysia's construction sector, particularly in Modular Construction, which emphasises sustainability and efficiency.

## The Need for Skilled Labour in Construction

The construction industry in Malaysia faces challenges related to a shortage of skilled workers. Recognising this gap, MRCB and CIDB initiated a programme designed to elevate the employability of TVET graduates by enhancing their competencies through a robust curriculum, an improved training facility, and an upgraded infrastructure. This initiative not only aims to provide employment opportunities but also seeks to create a sustainable workforce that can adapt to the evolving demands of the construction landscape.

## THE CIDB-MRCB TVET PARTNERSHIP

Signed on 7 June 2023, the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between CIDB and MRCB set the foundation for a three-year collaboration aimed at increasing the employability of TVET graduates. This initiative emphasises competency-based training and hands-on experience to equip trainees with the skills necessary to meet industry demands. A flagship component of this partnership is the Tower Crane Training Programme, inaugurated at a dedicated training facility built by MRCB in Bandar Saujana Putra, Selangor.

The training facility is a testament to MRCB's commitment to bridging the gap between theoretical knowledge and practical application. Accredited by both CIDB and the Department of Occupational Safety and Health, the site offers participants hands-on training with an actual 30-metre tower crane. This approach departs from traditional simulator-based instruction, providing trainees with invaluable "real life" experience and confidence in operating complex machinery.





### Focus on Modular Construction

An important aspect of this collaboration is its emphasis on Modular Construction, a more sustainable construction method that not only reduces waste and GHG emissions but also improves build quality and reduces the industry's reliance on foreign labour. By investing in TVET programmes tailored to this innovative approach, MRCB is positioning itself at the forefront of sustainable construction practices. The training encompasses various disciplines critical to modular construction, including:

- Concrete Technology
- Formwork Technology
- Crane and Heavy Machineries
- Safety, Health, and Environment Programmes

These areas are crucial for developing a skilled workforce capable of meeting the industry's future demands.

### Training Structure and Opportunities

The TVET programme includes specialised training modules such as:

- Tower Crane Operation & Rigging: A three-month course focusing on practical rigging and crane operations.
- On-the-Job Training: Participants gain hands-on experience through placements at MRCB's construction sites or partner locations.

The training site located at Bandar Saujana Putra serves as both a crane training facility and a casting yard for MRCB's modular systems. This multi-purpose facility ensures that trainees receive quality instruction aligned with industry standards.

By prioritising local talent development, MRCB and CIDB aim to reduce the construction sector's dependency on foreign labour. The programme is designed to cultivate a sustainable workforce equipped with essential skills that can contribute significantly to the industry's growth.

### Career Prospects for Trainees

Graduates from the crane operation training programme will find themselves well-positioned in the job market. Skilled crane operators are highly sought after, offering lucrative career paths within the construction sector. With this specialised training, these individuals will not only enhance their employability but also gain access to stable income opportunities that contribute positively to their communities.

The collaboration between MRCB and CIDB represents a forward-thinking approach to addressing the skills gap in Malaysia's construction industry. By investing in TVET programmes focused on crane operations and Modular Construction, both organisations are setting new standards for competency, sustainability, and self-reliance in the workforce. This initiative not only prepares young Malaysians for successful careers but also strengthens the overall capacity of the construction sector to innovate and grow sustainably.

*TVET trainees gain hands-on crane operation experience at MRCB's training facility*

**“MRCB's support has enhanced my professional growth, enabling me to prioritise safety and achieve impactful milestones that truly make a difference.”**

**Visvanathan Jeyagobi**  
Safety & Health Officer  
(MRCB Builders)