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Petronas staff begin shift to Tower One

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KUALA LUMPUR, Mon. - It was a historic moment for 166 Petronas employees who were the pioneer batch of occupants at Petronas Twin Towers, the world's tallest building, today.

The employees, who arrived in five buses from their former office in the Dayabumi complex, were greeted by the company's vice-president (human resources) Tan Sri Nordin Hassan.

They proceeded to the 10th floor for a briefing and doa selamat before starting work in offices on the 15th and 16th floor. In the evening, they attended a breaking of fast and prayers.

The staff, mostly from the property management services and human resources administration department, are among the 5,000 Petronas employees from the Klang Valley who will occupy the entire Tower One.

The move-in exercise will be carried out in stages as partitioning and furnishing works are still in progress. They are expected to be completed by August.

Maintenance executive of the regional property management department, Ramli Abdul Rahman, who has served the company for 17 years, described the shift as a proud moment in his life.

"I feel very happy to be among the pioneer staff from Petronas to occupy the building and I will cherish this moment forever," he said.

A clerk at the department, Zurina Mohamad, said she was happy that they had finally moved into the new building.

"At first, I was a bit worried about the safety measures as maintenance work had not been completed yet. However, I believe the management has taken all the necessary steps to ensure everything is secure."

The 451.9-metre-high 88-storey twin towers are within the Kuala Lumpur City Centre development, and will form part of the Multimedia Super Corridor.

The buildings are 8.9 metres higher than the Sears Tower in Chicago which was previously the world's tallest building.

Structural works on the towers were completed at the end of last year, four years after the project was launched by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad on Sept 15, 1992.

Tower One and Tower Two are linked by a sky-bridge on the 41st and 42nd floors. Each tower has 29 double deck high-speed passenger lifts. They are scheduled to be officially opened by year's end.

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