

ARTICLE:

TM 80TH ANNIVERSARY

EMPOWERING GENERATIONS: EIGHT DECADES OF CONNECTING MALAYSIA

Since its beginnings in 1946 as the Telecommunications Department of Malaya, TM has grown alongside the nation it serves. From the early years of rebuilding communications infrastructure after the war, the network began to stretch across towns, cities and rural communities, quietly weaving connections that would bring Malaysians closer together.

Across the decades, those connections became part of everyday life. The first telephone calls carried voices across distance, linking families, businesses and government offices. Later, broadband networks opened doors to new knowledge and opportunity, enabling students to learn beyond the classroom, workers to collaborate across borders, and small businesses to reach customers far from their neighbourhoods.

As Malaysia's economy expanded and industries modernised, connectivity became more than a convenience. It became an essential foundation for national progress. Enterprises built new capabilities around digital networks, government services moved increasingly online, and entire sectors of the economy emerged around information, technology and innovation. Today, this digital ecosystem is supported by fibre networks, submarine cables, data centres and cloud platforms, alongside emerging technologies such as artificial intelligence.

Along the way, the organisation itself has continually renewed and reinvented its role. From a government department to a corporatised entity and later a publicly listed company, each transformation reflected the changing needs and ambitions of the nation. The opening of Menara TM, inspired by the 'rebung' or bamboo shoot, stands as a symbol of that journey: growth, resilience and renewal reaching upward with every generation.

Today, as TM marks its 80th anniversary, its purpose remains rooted in the same aspiration that guided its earliest pioneers – connecting people and possibilities. Across eight decades, the networks built by generations past continue to empower the generations to come.

1946 - Telecommunications Department Established

The Telecommunications Department of Malaya is formed to rebuild and operate the nation's communications network.



1946



1957

1957 - Connecting a Newly Independent Nation

Telecommunications infrastructure expands rapidly following Merdeka, supporting administration, commerce and national integration.



1961

1961 - JT Emblem Introduced

The Jabatan Telekom (JT) emblem is introduced, reflecting localisation and the growing Malaysian leadership in telecommunications.



1986

1986 - Corporatisation of Telecommunications

Jabatan Telekom is corporatised as Syarikat Telekom Malaysia, marking the transition to a commercial telecommunications entity.



1990

1990 - Telekom Malaysia Listed on Bursa Malaysia

Telekom Malaysia Berhad is listed on Bursa Malaysia, strengthening its ability to invest in nationwide telecommunications.

2001 - Menara TM Opens

The iconic Menara TM, inspired by the rebung (bamboo shoot), symbolises growth, renewal and the company's forward-looking transformation.



2005

2005 - The New Brand Introduced

TM launches its new corporate identity, signalling its evolution into a broadband and digital services provider.

2022 - National Cloud Introduced

TM launches Credence - a cloud and digital services company delivering trusted cloud solutions to accelerate digital transformation and power a smarter, connected future.



2023

2023 - Single Operating Entity

Consolidates TM's core operations into one entity (TM Technology Services) to drive convergence, efficiency, operational excellence and enhance customer experience.

2025 - TM Nxera Established

Expanding TM's capabilities into next-generation data centres to support AI, cloud and the nation's digital future.

2026 - 80 Years of Connecting Malaysia

TM marks eight decades of connecting communities, businesses and institutions while advancing Malaysia's digital future.



2026
80th Anniversary

