

NEWS



The crowd at the 'Mai Riuhkan' carnival, held in conjunction with the opening ceremony of the Sultan Abdul Halim Mu'adzam Shah Bridge, in Batu Maung yesterday. Pic by Ramdhan Masiam



Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak showing a picture taken on his handphone to Penang Chief Minister Lim Guan Eng at the opening ceremony in Batu Maung. Pic by Bernama

An aerial view of the Sultan Abdul Halim Mu'adzam Shah Bridge. Pic by Rosli Ahmad



SULTAN
ABDUL
HALIM
MU'ADZAM
SHAH
BRIDGE



(From left) Teng Sue Wan, Nurul Aina Mahmod Ghazali and K. Kavitha holding a copy of the 'New Straits Times' that has a picture of the Sultan Abdul Halim Mu'adzam Shah Bridge. Pic by Mohamad Mikail Ong



Aleesya Amani Mohammad Faizol and her mother, Zuralsah Md Lazim, at the 'Mai Riuhkan' carnival in Batu Maung. Pic by Zulaikha Zainuzman

'Simply the best' fireworks show

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THE six-minute fireworks display that marked the opening of the country's new icon, the Sultan Abdul Halim Mu'adzam Shah Bridge, was touted as the largest and longest of its kind in the

country's history.

With more than 28,000 shots exploding in the air last night, the fireworks were synchronised along to the 1980s hit, *Simply the Best*, and left the thousands of people present awestruck.

Themed "The Great Panorama", the fireworks were placed along a 2km stretch on the bridge, spanning

from the landing point in Batu Maung on Penang Island to its navigational span.

Deric Tham, who is the pyrotechnics engineer for the opening ceremony, said the planning for the fireworks display took two months and involved a 24-member team.

"We have done big projects before, involving nearly 20kg to 30kg of ex-

plosives. But this is something else.

"I cannot reveal the amount used for the opening ceremony, but it is mammoth in proportions."

Tham said the explosives were placed along the motorcycle lane on the Batu Kawan-bound stretch of the bridge and a few along the Batu Maung coast.

"We had 24 men working for the

past two months to plan and execute the fireworks.

"We used a software called 'Firel' to execute the fireworks wirelessly."

Tham, who is also the executive director of Pyro-Tec, has 20 years of expertise in the field.

He was recently tasked with the fireworks display at Qatar's national day.