
New era for industrial sector

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MALAYSIA'S industrial sector is poised to enter a new era with the imminent establishment of an industrial area for industries using high-technology in Kulim, Kedah. The Government is encouraging high-technology industries to be located at the industrial area.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said projects with sophisticated technology will be encouraged to set up shop at the estate in efforts to disperse such industries to other states.

"We would like to see more of these industries going to other

states such as Kedah and Malacca which have the infrastructure to support the plants," he told newsmen after officiating at the opening of two Hitachi factories in Bangi, Selangor, yesterday.

Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir said high-technology industries are at present concentrated in states which are relatively more developed such as Selangor, Penang, and Johor.

The Government, he stressed, wants to disperse industries so that the whole Malaysian population can benefit from the country's industrial development.

"We have such a policy, and through agencies such as Mida (Malaysian Industrial Development Authority), we try to encourage industries to go to all states."

In the lesser developed states, he added, infrastructural facilities will be improved to attract foreign investors.

Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir expressed confidence in the approach taken in developing the Kulim high technology industrial estate, saying that it will contribute to realising the goals of Vision 2020.