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Mahathir - Tourism

MULTI-BILLION RINGGIT THEME PARKS FOR KEDAH

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ALOR SETAR, Jan 13 (Bernama) -- Two theme parks, costing billions of ringgit, will be implemented along the coast of Kedah soon to elevate the state as one of the premier tourism centres in the country.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, who announce this today, said both projects would be carried out jointly by the government and private companies.

He said one would be the Jerai International Park (JIP), a cultural theme park, at Tanjung Dawai and the second would be an agricultural park at Tanjung Puteri in the Kuala Muda district.

JIP would cover 2,400 hectares and the second park, 400 hectares, he told reporters after a meeting with the State Executive Council members and district officers at Wisma Darul Aman here.

He said the first phase of JIP would cost RM2 billion and the entire project would be spread over four phases to be completed in 16 years. Each phase would take four years.

The Tanjung Puteri park would cost RM300 million and was expected to be completed in six years. -- more

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Dr Mahathir said JIP, covering Kampung Singkir, Tanjung Dawai and Gunung Jerai, would contain an international cultural village to showcase the cultures of various countries.

There would be accommodation and other tourist facilities, he said, adding that work on the two projects would start once the joint venture agreements were signed at the end of this month.

He said local companies would implement the projects although they might seek foreign partners. -- Bernama

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▼13/01/19-24MST