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KUB KEEN TO VENTURE INTO ELECTRONIC INDUSTRIES IN S'WAK

MUKAH, Aug 8 (Bernama) -- KUB Holdings Bhd is interested to venture into the electronic industries in Sarawak to diversify its activities in the state.

Chairman, Encik Hassan Harun today said that the company, which was now manufacturing and installing digital switchgear for the telecommunications industry and computer diskettes in Peninsular Malaysia, was keen to extend the industry to Sarawak.

The KUB had acquired the required skills and was now ready to find a suitable project in the state and the right partners to work with, he said.

It is in the process of identifying the right industry and is considering factors such as the right labour supply in Sarawak, he said here, today.

Hassan said this to reporters before the signing of a joint-venture agreement between KUB and its partners -- Medan Sepadu Sdn Bhd (MSSB) and the Sarawak Melanau Community Charitable Trust Board (SMC).

At the ceremony, Hassan represented KUB, MSSB was represented by its chairman Encik Abdul Hamid Sapawi while SMC by its President Encik Aidan Wing. The ceremony was witnessed by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad and Sarawak Chief Minister Tan Sri Haji Abdul Taib Mahmud.

Hassan said the joint venture would establish a RM60 million palm oil plantation, including a crude palm oil mill with a capacity of between 40 metric tonnes and 60 metric tonnes per hour, on a 4,640-ha of land in Oya-Dalat, near here.

The plantation is expected to produce 92,800 metric tonnes of palm oil per year from the year 2000 when the construction of the mill is scheduled to be ready, he said.

Hassan said KUB's vehicle in the project is KUB Agrotech Sdn Bhd (KUBA), a wholly-owned subsidiary of KUB Holdings Bhd, the co-operative's investment holding company.

In the joint-venture company, which is yet to be named, KUBA would hold 60 percent, MSSB 30 percent and SMC 10 percent.

KUBA currently owns an oil palm plantation in Kluang and manages another in Sungai Yong, near Kluang. It plans to expand its current activities and venture into livestock rearing, aquaculture and agrotourism.

-- BERNAMA

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