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Mahathir-technology

PM UNHAPPY WITH LEVEL OF TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER IN AUTOMOBILE INDUSTRY

TAIPING, March 23 (Bernama) -- Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today he is dissatisfied with the level of technology transfer in the country, particularly in the automobile industry.

"We want a greater level of transfer of technology as there are more detailed aspects that have yet to be transferred," he told reporters after visiting the RM1 billion Tasik Bukit Merah township project, about 15km from here.

The prime minister also advised local companies not to recruit workers who kept changing their workplace as it would affect the process of technology transfer.

"These workers, if they are paid a higher salary will frequently change jobs but will not be able to perform their jobs properly," he added.

On the Tasik Bukit Merah township developed by the Emkay group, Dr Mahathir said he was satisfied with its development plan but reminded the developer to ensure that the environment was protected.

The developer should not cut down trees or level hills to adapt the environment to the project plan, but should instead tailor the plan to suit the environment, he said.

During his two-hour visit, the prime minister was briefed on the project by Emkay chairman Datuk Mustapha Kamal Abu Bakar.

Meanwhile, asked by reporters on the remaining Vietnamese illegal immigrants in Kuala Lumpur, Dr Mahathir said the government did not fix a time frame for them to return to their homeland in view of the problems faced by Vietnam. -- Bernama

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