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Port city

PORT KLANG AND SURROUNDING ISLANDS TO BE TURNED INTO PORT CITY

PORT KLANG, March 1 (Bernama) -- Port Klang and surrounding islands would be developed into a port city in line with its role as the trade entry point in Southeast Asia in the 21st century, Menteri Besar Tan Sri Muhammad Haji Muhammad Taib said today.

A study would be conducted on the viability of turning Port Klang, Pulau Indah, Pulau Carey and the Kapar Marine Industries Park into a city.

"From its concept, the area has the potential for traders and entrepreneurs to set up, manage and expand their trade not only in Malaysia but to the whole of Southeast Asia," he said when opening the Nippon Express (M) Sdn.Bhd. office and godown, here.

Besides being equipped with port and information facilities, the area would also have international-class exhibition hall, lodging facilities and marina for luxury boats as well as tourist attractions like an aquarium and a national maritime history reference centre, he added.}

Major companies would be invited to take part in the development of Selangor's coastal areas, he said, adding that small- and medium-scale entrepreneurs should also grab the opportunities available and grow with the development.

"In the long run, this will achieve the aspiration of Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad to make Malaysia the focus of world attention in the field of shipping as well as the sea recreation and maritime-based industries," he said.

Muhammad also said the opening of the Nippon Express licensed godown showed that Malaysia continued to receiveM set up in 1984 to provide air and sea freight servom Japan.

In the manufacturing sector alone, Selangor received investments totalling RM5.5 billion from Japanese companies between 1990 and 1995, most of it in the field of electronics, power, automobile equipment and consumer goods.

Nippon Express was set up in 1984 to provide air and sea freight services and transportation, installation and storage of bulk equipment.

Also present at the function were the Japanese Ambassador to Malaysia Issei Nomura and Nippon Express president Shoichiro Hamanaka. -- BERNAMA

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