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MUST

SELANGOR TO PROVIDE SITE FOR SCIENCE AND TECH VARSITY

SHAH ALAM, Oct 16 (Bernama) -- Selangor is prepared to provide a suitable site for the proposed Malaysian University of Science and Technology (Must) that will be developed as a private institution, focussing on the research and development (R&D) sector.

State Science, Technology and Environment Committee Chairman Ch'ng Toh Eng said today the setting up of Must would augur well for the state, a leader in industry.

"The project is also consistent with our approach to encourage and prioritise research and development as well as human resource development, especially for the high technology industry," he told reporters at his office here.

Menteri Besar Tan Sri Muhammad Haji Muhamad Taib had made mentioned the project but had not brought it before the state executive council, he said.

"We have not identified a suitable site, but the Bernam Valley is probably the ideal place," said Ch'ng who is also the assemblyman for Kuala Kubu Bharu.

Last month, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad visited the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in Boston, the United States, where he was given an in depth briefing on the setting up of Must with the MIT's participation.

Dr Mahathir expressed full support for the private sector efforts in developing the project, that would be carried out next year.

Sarawak entrepreneur Datuk Effendi Norwawi, who is Encorp chief executive and Sapura Holdings chairman Tan Sri Shamsuddin Abdul Kadir are the prime movers of the project.

Effendi had said that Must was not a commercial project for profit as such, but a national private project to assist in strengthening the country's position in science and technology. -- BERNAMA

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