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Senate-Cooperation

47 PROJECTS WORTH RM11 BILLION IN IMT-GT AREA

KUALA LUMPUR, May 13 (Bernama) -- Forty-seven projects involving a sum of RM11 billion have been planned or implemented by the private sector in the Indonesia-Malaysia-Thailand (IMT-GT) growth area through Memorandums of Understanding (MOU) signed among the three countries, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad told the Dewan Negara today.

He said the projects covered transportation, telecommunication, tourism, industry, trade, finance, energy, agriculture and human resource development.

Of the total, 14 projects had been implemented while the rest were in various stages of implementation, he told Senator Charern Intachat during Question Time.

He said the implementation of the projects would have a big effect on development in the IMT-GT area.

The Prime Minister said the main purpose of setting up the IMT-GT was to enable the private sectors to pool their resources and spearhead economic development through close cooperation for their common benefit.

Dr Mahathir said the government acted as the facilitator to enable the private sectors to implement their projects through cooperation among them.

Senator Datuk Abdul Aziz Abdul Rahman wanted to know if there was a proposal for east coast states in the peninsula to cooperate with Vietnam and Cambodia along the lines of the IMT-GT, Dr Mahathir replied there was no such plan. -- BERNAMA

NZ AAM