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Countries firm on success of IMTGT

PRIME Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad told the Dewan Negara yesterday that Malaysia, Indonesia and Thailand were fully committed to ensuring the success and development of the Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand Growth Triangle.

Replying to a question from Charern Intachat, he said the three countries would continue to work towards encouraging more investments from the private sector in the growth triangle.

He said a memorandum of understanding had been signed for 47 joint venture projects by the private sector worth RM11 billion. The projects involved are in the telecommunications, tourism, trade and financial sectors.

He said 14 of these projects have been implemented while the remaining were in various stages of implementation.

Dr Mahathir said these projects would have great influence in the development of the areas involved.

"The aim of the growth triangle is to enable the private sectors to mutually reap the benefits and together cooperate in the development of the growth triangle," he said.

He said the Government only played the role of a facilitator to generate participation of the private sector in the projects.

Dr Mahathir also expressed his confidence that many more projects would be implemented by the private sector in the future.

To a question from Datuk Abdul Aziz Abdul Rahman, he said the Government had no plans to establish a similar growth area which involved the East Coast states, Vietnam and Cambodia.

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