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Saleh-Circuit

DRB-HICOM EARMARKS NEW PROVING GROUND AT MUADZAM SHAH

PEKAN, Oct 18 (Bernama) -- The DRB-Hicom Group has identified a site in Bandar Muadzam Shah near here for the construction of its test track and proving ground, its executive chairman Datuk Wira Saleh Sulong said.

The new location was to replace the site in Sungai Miang previously proposed for the construction of the track.

"A preliminary study indicates Bandar Muadzam Shah as the better site," he told reporters after attending a mass rally here attended by some 18,000 people.

They have originally gathered for the launching of the national truck and Malaysian Truck and Bus Sdn Bhd (MTB) by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

The launch was postponed to a later date because Dr Mahathir was indisposed with flu.

Saleh said the proposed proving ground and test track would be the first such facility in Southeast Asia.

It would be open to all parties to test their vehicles not only for safety and speed but also for capabilities under various situations.

On increased duties for imported vehicles, including 4-wheel drives, announced in the 1998 Budget yesterday, he said DRB-Hicom felt the move was timely to deal with the depreciation of the ringgit. -- BERNAMA

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