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Hungary to assist in projects

PROJECTS of cooperation between Malaysia and Hungary in the areas of technology and the environment are expected to take off by June next year, said President of the National Committee of Technology Development Lajos Nyiri.

The proposed projects will be reviewed in January next year and the projects are to be realised by June, he told reporters when calling on Minister of Science, Technology and the Environment Datuk Law Hieng Ding at his office yesterday.

"This visit is a follow-up to the Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad's visit to Hungary in June where a memorandum of understanding was signed between the two governments for cooperation in science and technology," said Law who was a member of the Malaysian delegation to Hungary.

"Among the areas of cooperation that have been identified include advanced materials, environmental technology, biotechnology, information technology and technology partnership.

Nyiri and his 15-member delegation who arrived here on Tuesday night will be meeting with local agencies and scientists to identify the projects.

"They will be meeting Sirim Bhd for projects in advanced materials and environmental technology; Mimos Bhd in information technology; and Malaysian Technology Development Corp and the Malaysian Industry-Government High Technology (Might) for technology partnership.

Delegation members include the Hungarian private sector involved in information technology as well as parties interested to have cooperation in education and training.

Law also thanked the Hungarian Government for donating 5,000 pieces of face masks, a "special type suited for young children which is always in short supply here".

Earlier Law presented the Dr Ranjeet Bhagwan Singh research grants to two local researchers. A RM20,000 grant was awarded to Dr Noor Hamidah Hussin, a lecturer at the Pathology Department of University Kebangsaan Malaysia.

The other grant worth RM16,000 was presented to Dr Ong Beng Beng, a lecturer at the Pathology Department of the University of Malaya medical faculty.

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