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Tioman-Development

PAHANG TO PRESERVE THE ENVIRONMENT IN TIOMAN'S DEVELOPMENT

KUANTAN, Feb 16 (Bernama) -- The Pahang government will preserve the environment in the implementation of a proposed development project on Pulau Tioman, Menteri Besar Tan Sri Khalil Yaakob said today.

Speaking to reporters at a "Kongsi Raya" function organised by the Kuantan Chinese Consultative Committee here, he said the project, to be carried out under the Seventh Malaysia Plan, was among measures to increase the number of tourists to Pulau Tioman.

He said that the project, modelled after similar projects in Italy and Greece, would include a marina, handicraft bazaar and cafe terrace.

Khalil said Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad had personally directed the implementation of the project when they met at Tioman recently.

He and Dr Mahathir had also toured Pulau Tioman by boat and helicopter before discussing the proposed project further.

Khalil said initially a study would be conducted on the location so as not to cause affect rivers and the catchment area.

He gave an assurance that the project would not affect the environment and would not involve the felling of trees and clearing of hills.

Khalil said the project would bring many benefits to the local population especially in enhancing their economic position through managing tourist spots.

On the Malaysia Electrical City (MEC) project in Gambang here, he said three of the factory buildings had been completed and work to bring in the equipment to enable production to start was in progress.

The construction of the MEC City involving an investment of about RM4 billion is a one-stop centre where foreigners can buy Malaysian-made electrical equipment. The Pahang government and Khazanah Holdings each have a 20 per cent share in the project. -- BERNAMA

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