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PM LAUNCHES RM4 BILLION MEC CITY AT GAMBANG

By: Mohd Arshi Daud

KUANTAN, March 17 (Bernama) -- MEC City, an integrated township that will spearhead Malaysia's entry into the the global electrical appliances industry, was launched today by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

The RM4 billion project, covering a land area of 1,200 hectares that will house the manufacturing plants for Malaysia-owned brand name electrical products, is the brainchild of the prime minister himself.

Over 20,000 people who attended the event today, also witnessed the launch of MEC, that is the concept and brand name for the made-in-Malaysia electrical products.

Also in attendance were several cabinet ministers and deputy ministers.

Located at Gambang near Kuantan, MEC City is accessible to Kuantan, the port and the airport through the existing Kuala Lumpur-Kuantan East Coast highway.

The city is owned by Malaysia Electric Corporation Bhd (MEC), a 60 percent subsidiary of Kuala Lumpur Industries Holdings Bhd (KLIH) and a 30 percent unit of Khazanah Nasional Bhd, the government's investment arm.

A fast-track project that is expected to be fully completed in 10 years, MEC City will be developed around four major components: the MEC City, MEC Industrial Park, MEC Residential Centre and MEC Research, Development and Training Centre.

The MEC City component will house the main administrative block and various product manufacturing plants, while MEC Industrial Park will be the home of a host of supporting small and medium sized industries to provide parts and components to MEC plant.

The project is planned to accommodate a population of 100,000 through the MEC Residential Centre that will also provide recreational facilities.

An MEC Research, Development and Training centre, comprising related training schools, institutes and a centre for research and development would also be located in the township.

MEC Industrial Park Sdn Bhd, the project developer for MEC City had recently completed MEC air-conditioner and refrigerator factories in a short period of three months.

MEC's range of electrical appliances includes CFC-free refrigerators, air-conditioners, rice and pressure cookers, television sets and hi-fi equipment.

MEC presently operates three other plants in Kuala Lumpur, Klang and Penang.--BERNAMA

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