

26 JUN 2000

ASM-Hamad

PNB CONFIDENT ASM WILL BE SOLD OUT WHEN ROADSHOW ENDS IN JOHOR

IPOH, June 26 (Bernama) -- Permodalan Nasional Berhad (PNB) is confident that the remaining some 400 million units of the Amanah Saham Malaysia (ASM) will be sold out when its nationwide roadshow ends in Johor in the next few months.

PNB Group Chief Executive Datuk Hamad Kama Piah Che Othman said to-date 2.53 billion units of the ASM at RM1 per unit had been sold since Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad launched it on April 20.

The initial size of the PNB's sixth fund was RM2 billion but later was increased by another RM1 billion when it was sold out within 20 days.

Met by reporters after launching the ASM for the state here, Hamad Kama Piah said the PNB had visited 11 states to promote the ASM.

"Only two more left, Pahang and Johor and we are confident that all the units will be sold out once we have our promotions in the two states," he said.

To-date, Selangor tops other states with ASM investment of RM451 millions from 50,107 investors, followed by Sarawak (RM401 million, 35,419 investors), Federal Territory (RM332 million, 37,870 investors), Sabah (RM265 million, 26,436 investors) and Perak (RM211 million, 29,736 investors).

Hamad Kama Piah said a new unit trust scheme would be introduced once ASM had been fully subscribed.

"We are waiting for the right time to launch the scheme," he said, while not denying the possibility that it would be the the Children Education Trust Fund as announced recently.

"The important thing is to finish the ASM first," he said.

Perak Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Tajol Rosli Ghazali had officiated the launching of the ASM in Perak.

-- BERNAMA

hj abg