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Pahang-UAE

PAHANG INVITES EMIRATE INVESTORS, TOURISTS

By: Shakir Husain

DUBAI, Jan 25 (Bernama) -- Visiting Pahang Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Adnan Yaakob has invited investors from the United Arab Emirates (UAE) to take advantage of business opportunities in his state.

Adnan, who is leading a 13-member delegation of senior officials, told a gathering of more than 100 entrepreneurs and tourism promoters in Dubai on Wednesday that Pahang presented an ideal climate for setting up industries.

"Trading, tourism, Islamic banking and information technology are the four main areas especially suited to UAE investors," he said.

He said Malaysia had recovered from the economic slowdown of 1997 and that the recovery was brought about by the selective capital controls put in force by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad for checking the activities of currency speculators.

Adnan said Dubai's efforts towards becoming the regional information technology hub provided Malaysian and UAE businessmen the avenue for cooperation in the IT field.

Dubai has launched multi-million-dollar mega projects like the Dubai Media City and the Internet City in efforts to emerge as an IT hub.

When asked if a local sponsor or partner was required to set up a business in the state, Adnan said there was no such condition.

Foreign investors were free to run their businesses independently, Adnan assured Emirate entrepreneurs while promising them all necessary facilities and early clearance of projects.

A video presentation of Pahang's industrial development and tourism potential, showcasing its hill resorts, islands, jungles and beaches was well-received by the audience.

Adnan has held extensive discussions with the chambers of commerce and industry in the emirates of Sharjah and Dubai, briefing the officials about the Malaysian state's industrialisation drive.

On Saturday, he will meet officials in Abu Dhabi, the richest and largest of seven emirates that make up the UAE federation.

-- BERNAMA

SKH AZZ RYN