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CONSTRUCTION-PACKAGE

HOPE WILL PROVIDE ECONOMIES OF SCALE FOR IBS

KUALA LUMPUR, May 22 (Bernama) -- The Home Ownership for People (Hope) project under the economic package would provide economies of scale for the implementation of Industrialised Building System (IBS), Master Builders Association Malaysia (MBAM), said here today.

"This would in turn spurn entrepreneurs to set up more precast facilities and other manufacturing concern all over the country with incentives from government to builders to amortise capital investment on plant and machinery," its President Lau Mun Cheong said in a statement.

He said that the adoption of IBS, including pre-fabricated elements, formwork systems, autoclave block and drywall system with definite form of standardisation, would enhance productivity and reduce the over reliance on foreign worker.

"MBAM hopes that this latest pump-priming measure will not only ensure generation of works for builders but also to building materials suppliers and manufacturers and services sectors comprising more than 140 linkage that are directly connected to the construction industry," Lau said.

He also said that the economic package announced by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad showed that the government listened to the industry's views and acknowledged the role played by the construction sector in enhancing economic growth in view of its linkage to construction-related industries.

The Hope project was announced under the economic package to provide affordable low and medium-cost houses for the lower income group and targetted the construction of 150,000 units of medium-cost and affordable houses within a five-year period by Syarikat Perumahan Negara Bhd. --
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