

Perlis aims for developed status by 2015
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Perlis is formulating strategies to implement its vision to achieve the status of a developed state (Perlis Maju) by 2015 in tandem with the country's Vision 2020, Menteri Besar Dr Md Isa Sabu said today.

"The strategies would include implementing high-impact development projects," he said in reply to Khairi Hassan (BN-Mata Ayer) at the State Assembly sitting.

Among the listed projects are the development of a High Technology Park and Knowledge City in Ulu Pauh, Perlis Halal Park in Padang Besar, Malaysia Technology Park's Herbal Biotech Centre in Sungai Batu Pahat and commercialisation of value-added agriculture.

Other projects include the upgrading of the fisheries jetty in Kuala Perlis to an International Fishing Port, development of projects and programmes under the Northern Corridor Economic Region and development of the agro-tourism and eco-tourism sectors.

Md Isa said the state government was in the midst of setting up a Perlis Maju Secretariat and Inter-Agency Planning Group Committee to implement and monitor the indicators which had to be met based on international standards to enable Perlis to be recognised as a progressive state by 2015.

Pessimistic views from some

Dr Md Isa said although there were some pessimistic views of the state's vision to become a developed state by 2015, the state government was confident that the cooperation and commitment from all government agencies, the private sector and the people would enable the vision to be achieved perfectly.

He also said that the state government's subsidiaries had a major role to play to help the state government to achieve the mission by participating and securing economic opportunities.

Among the state government's subsidiaries which had recorded profit last year are Perlis Marine Engineering Sdn Bhd with RM3.36 million, Pens Industries Sdn Bhd (RM3.44 million), Pens Holdings Sdn Bhd (RM133,825), Perlis Property Sdn Bhd (RM96,756), Modern Spectrum Sdn Bhd (RM336,000), Rumpun Teras Sdn Bhd (RM75,000), Bakau Jaya Development Sdn Bhd (RM45,474) and Perlis Comm Sdn Bhd (RM119,208).

- Bernama

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