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From left: Najib, MFMA Development managing director Takehito Fukui and Malaysia Airports chairman Tan Sri Wan Abdul Aziz Wan Abdullah touring Mitsui Outlet Park KLIA Sepang after its launch yesterday.

Najib launches Mitsui Outlet Park

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> Shopping mall near KLIA in Sepang a joint venture between Mitsui Fudosan and Malaysia Airports Holdings

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SEPANG: Foreign tourists arriving at KL International Airport can now stop by the newly opened Mitsui Outlet Park KLIA Sepang as their first destination in the country.

The mall - managed by MFMA Development Sdn Bhd, a joint venture between Mitsui Fudosan Co Ltd (70%) and Malaysia Airports Holdings Bhd (30%) - is the first Mitsui outlet outside Japan and is a mere five-minute drive from the airport. It measures about 24,000 sq m and has 127 stores housing various local, Japanese and Western brands, including Citizen, ICB, Noritake, Hush Puppies, Hugo Boss, Superdry and Zalora.

The mall, which started operations on May 30, was officially opened by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Abdul Razak yesterday.

Mitsui Fudosan president Masanobu Komoda hopes this outlet will help transform Malaysia into a major shopping destination in Southeast Asia.

"We have injected our experience and knowledge acquired from the development and operations of 13 existing malls in Japan into this outlet," he said at the launch of Mitsui Outlet Park KLIA Sepang.

Najib, in his speech, said the joint venture between Mitsui Fudosan and Malaysia Airports further underscores Malaysia's relationship with Japan, which is warm and longstanding with strong political and economic ties developed over the years.

"Collaborations such as these will not only serve to cement the ties further, but will also allow Malaysia to benefit from the transfer of knowledge in development and retail projects," he added.