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Najib has Penang in mind

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> To consider Guan Eng's appeal for state's inclusion in 11MP growth fund

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GEORGE TOWN: Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Abdul Razak will consider including Penang as a catalyst growth city under the 11th Malaysia Plan (11MP), according to Chief Minister Lim Guan Eng.

Lim said he spoke to Najib about the matter during a heads of state government meeting on Thursday.

"I appealed to him (Najib) and he said he will consider it.

"We will wait for his winding-up (speech in Parliament)," he said in a press conference yesterday.

Lim has repeatedly voiced his unhappiness after Penang was not included in the list of cities which comprise Kuala Lumpur, Johor Baru, Kuching and Kota Kinabalu.

Putrajaya has allocated a RM260 billion budget for the 11MP over the next five years in a final push to attain developed nation status for Malaysia in 2020.

Projects under the five-year plan are aimed at addressing issues in social welfare, green growth, infrastructure and innovation.

Earlier, Lim flagged off the Federation of Malaysian Manufacturers (FMM) Heritage Green Walk at Lebuhraya Pantai here.

FMM Penang chairman Datuk Dr Ooi Eng Hock said the walk raised RM200,000, which will be disbursed to 10 Penang-based charities for children and education.

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"Our objectives are to raise funds for charity, promote a healthy lifestyle, to appreciate Penang's heritage and renew our commitment to a cleaner and greener environment," he said.