



Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad test driving the VinFast Lux SA (A) 2.0 during his visit to the Hoa Lac Hi-Tech Park in Hanoi yesterday. BERNAMA PIC

Dr M happy with growth of joint industrial zone

HANOI: Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad has expressed pride and joy over the development of the Noi Bai Industrial Zone, for which he had broken ground in 1996.

The 114ha industrial zone is managed by Noi Bai Development Corporation Ltd (NBD), a Malaysia-Vietnam joint venture between Vista Spectrum Sdn Bhd and Urban Infrastructure Development Investment Corporation UDIC Vietnam.

It had attracted 46 investors and provided more than 22,000 jobs.

Dr Mahathir said it was Vietnam's largest industrial area and the country's first development involving a foreign party.

"At that time, Vietnam did not have an industrial area. But they saw what we have in Malaysia and were interested to do the same back home. So we provided the information and (development) model to them.

"They then invited the private sector to develop the industrial park, which is quite successful today. This an example of assistance we extended to a neighbouring country."

Later, Dr Mahathir took the VinFast Lux SA (A) 2.0 for a spin during his visit to the Hoa Lac Hi-Tech Park.

The VinFast is Vietnam's sports-utility vehicle developed by the country's real-estate developer VinGroup.