

'Over RM16bil in deals secured'

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Muhyiddin: It reflects confidence in govt's ability to manage the pandemic

By LIEW JIA XIAN
jjaxian@thestar.com.my

GEORGE TOWN: The Northern Corridor Implementation Authority (NCIA) has secured investments of over RM16bil and generated 19,652 jobs this year, says the Prime Minister.

Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin said this was a testament of the investors' confidence in the government's ability to manage the Covid-19 pandemic.

The investment commitments and job opportunities created, he added, were a sign of the investor community's confidence in the viability of Malaysia and the Northern Corridor Economic Region (NCER) states.

"The encouraging investments showed investors' confidence in the country's economic fundamentals despite the challenges of the Covid-19 pandemic.

"Under the National Recovery Plan announced on June 15, the government seeks to provide vaccines to as many members of the population as possible in Malaysia by the end of this year or earlier.

"This will help to revive the current pandemic situation, including business and economic activities.

"Today, the investment commitments will support and accelerate our recovery process, especially in the NCER," he said during the 26th



Virtual get-together: Muhyiddin chairing the NCIA Council Meeting which was conducted in a hybrid format.

NCIA Council meeting held virtually yesterday.

Muhyiddin also witnessed eight companies expressing commitments to make high-impact investments in Kedah, Penang, Perak and Perlis at the Investment Commitment ceremony held during the meeting.

He was also briefed on updates of the various socioeconomic plans, like the recovery plan as well as the implementation of human capital programmes focused on the people's welfare.

The investments received by NCIA in collaboration with the Finance Ministry, Economic

Planning Unit, International Trade and Industry Ministry and Malaysian Investment Development Authority are in line with the government's efforts to successfully roll out the National Recovery Plan.

The investments are also in line with the NCER's strategic development plan from 2021 to

2025, which is anchored on the "Growth with Equity" vision of turning NCER into a world-class economic region by 2025 and to focus on the socioeconomic recovery efforts for the people and business communities.

NCIA chief executive officer Datuk Seri Jebasingam Issace John said its integrated human capital programmes, particularly Kasih Ibu NCER, and fast-track programmes such as JomKerja@NCER and JomNiaga@NCER were in line with the government's efforts to help the rakyat as well as micro enterprises and SMEs get back on their feet.

"These are signs that an economic rebound is set to take place soon. There is new hope and the light at the end of the tunnel is getting brighter," he added.

In Penang, the electrical and electronics industry continues to be a major engine of growth in the NCER.

Also present during the meeting were Finance Minister Tengku Datuk Seri Zafrul Abdul Aziz, Chief Secretary to the Government Tan Sri Mohd Zuki Ali, Minister in the Prime Minister's Department (Economy) Datuk Seri Mustapa Mohamed, Penang Chief Minister Chow Kon Yeow, Kedah Menteri Besar Muhammad Sanusi Md Nor, Perlis Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Azlan Man and Perak Menteri Besar Datuk Saarani Mohamad.