

Senai Hi-tech Park Identified Nation's Key Driver For Hi-tech Manufacturing - Najib Bernama
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PUTRAJAYA, Aug 23 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak says the Senai Hi-Tech Park in Johor has been identified as the nation's key driver for high-technology manufacturing and research and development.

He said the park, the second hi-tech park after the Kulim Hi-Tech Park, would complement the government's vision to transform Malaysia into an advanced nation, with technological innovations, creative industry and value-added initiatives.

Both the parks would further spur the national economy and create huge job opportunities for Malaysians, he said.

"Realising the importance of the Senai Hi-Tech Park to the nation's well-being, the government approved the project to be implemented by way of Public-Private Partnership.

"I am pleased to learn that it has made great progress since I launched the project last year," said Najib when speaking at the signing of a memorandum of understanding (MoU) between Senai Hi-Tech Park Sdn Bhd and Solexel (M) Sdn Bhd, an innovative solar PV module manufacturer based in Milpatas, California here today.

The MoU was signed by Senai Hi-Tech Park chief executive officer Datuk Ahmad Shukri Tajuddin and Solexel president and CEO Michael Wingert.

The MoU is to set up a manufacturing facility for the production of crystalline silicon solar cell in collaboration with the Senai Hi-Tech Park on a 100-acre site at the Iskandar Industrial Zone Phase 1.

Najib said Solexel, a California-based company, would invest RM2.8 billion in the next five years and would provide 2,300 jobs.

The solar cell project is one of the technology sectors that the government is highly promoting at the moment to encourage green and renewable energy industry in the country that will form the foundation for future green energy policy for the country, Najib said.

The government has been very successful in bringing in foreign direct investments (FDIs) in hi-tech projects with the creation of the Kulim Hi-Tech Park, he said.

"(Similarly) I hope the Senai Hi-Tech Park, strategically located in south Johor, will also play a significant role in nation-building," he added.

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