

PM Attends Dorper Sheep Charity Auction ECER Carnival
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PEKAN, April 21 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak today attended the ECER Pekan Dorper Sheep Auction in conjunction with the launching of the 'Persisiran Warisan Pekan and Karnival Rakyat', here today.

At the auction, 50 Pekan Dorper sheep bred by participants of the Pekan Agropolitan project were auctioned off to corporate bidders who were specially invited for the occasion.

The 12 corporate bodies involved in the auction included the Kuantan Port Consortium Sdn Bhd, Ahamd Zaki Resources Sdn Bhd (AZRB) and Pembinaan SPK Sdn Bhd.

Kuantan Port Consortium Sdn Bhd emerged as the highest bidder, offering a price of RM120,000 for 10 Dorper sheep auctioned at the event.

Earlier, 350 Dorper sheep had been sold at the public auction held separately in the morning.

Datuk Jebasingam Issace John, chief executive officer of ECER Development Council, said that he was pleased with the outcome of the auction.

"The auction was successful because it showed the collaboration between the industry players and ECER which augurs well for our sheep breeding programme," he said.

"It has been less than three years since the Agropolitan scheme was launched in Pekan but the participants are already reaping its benefits.

"The participants have seen their income increase to RM1,200 and more per month. The proceeds of this auction will go to the Pekan Agropolitan participants' welfare," he said.

The sheep sold in today's auction were the result of the sheep rearing scheme in Runchang under the Agropolitan Pekan project as well as its expansion to Batu 8.

The primary economic activity of Runchang focuses on sheep rearing while the Batu 8 scheme's main economic activity is in oil palm plantation.

The auction today was ECER's second sheep auction. The first in 2010 successfully raised RM265,000 from 465 sheep sold.

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