

China-Malaysia business matching centre coming to Penang

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Centre will assist interested local businesses which want to work on China's One Belt One Road (Obor) projects.

GEORGE TOWN: A China-Malaysia centre providing business matching for local companies interested in One Belt One Road (Obor) projects will open in Penang next month.

State MCA chairman Tan Teik Cheng said the fully-staffed Obor centre would help interested local businesses find suitable matches for Obor and other projects in China.

Tan said the new centre had an advantage as it enjoyed a “good relationship” with the International Liaison Department, under the Communist Party of China’s central committee.

“We hope that after the establishment of this centre, we will be able to do more matchmaking.

“Local businesses will get better advice through this channel and master the whole concept of One Belt One Road.

“An advisory panel comprising Penang’s business leaders, including entrepreneurs who have been investing in China in the past, will be established.

“The panel will include business leaders from China,” he said in a statement today.

Penang’s Obor centre will be located at MCA’s office on Transfer Road, headed by state MCA China Affairs Committee chair Koay Kar Huah.

Koay will be assisted by Loo Khay Thye as deputy chairman, and Tan Lee Huat as secretary.

Beijing has committed some US\$926 billion (RM4.015 trillion) in projects along the Obor route, including railway networks, highways and ports in Laos, Malaysia, Pakistan and Vietnam.

It has also developed over 50 overseas economic and trade cooperation zones along the Obor route, aimed at boosting trade and investments.

In Malaysia, one of the notable ventures along the Obor route is the RM43 billion Melaka Gateway project.

The Melaka Gateway project, seen as an attempt to compete with Singapore, features a deep-sea port to be built by 2019 on Pulau Melaka off the state's coast.

It will also include a cruise terminal and a waterfront district with hotels and a giant observation wheel.

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