

## Press Clipping

# PKFZ to give economy a boost

THE Port Klang Free Zone (PKFZ), designed to promote entrepot trade and mainly export-oriented manufacturing industries through its top-end infrastructure and service-oriented culture, will provide a tremendous boost to the national economy when it starts operations in about six months, said Azizul Annuar, its assistant general manager for sales and marketing.

When fully developed in five years' time, PKFZ would be a significant focal point in terms of the strong economic stimulus from the many industries drawn to the zone as a result of its investor-friendly approach, he said.

The development of the free zone, Azizul said, represents a giant step in fulfilling the Government's objective of making Port Klang a regional distribution base

as well as a trade and logistics centre.

It will also complement the Selangor State Government's plan to make Port Klang a vibrant commercial and industrial hub.

"Our concept of giving investors the option to build their own facilities will also enhance Selangor's status as a developed state," he said, adding that the zone would not only help stimulate economic growth in Port Klang but also the coastal region of Selangor.

Promoted as the country's first fully integrated free commercial and industrial zone, PKFZ, which covers 400ha in all, offers prepared industrial sites (open land), light industrial units (LIUs) for factories and warehouses and office space at the PKFZ business complex.

PKFZ's open land offers 298.4ha of prepared sites for

long-term lease while the LIUs have 512 units at 510 sq metres each with a tenancy of one to three years.

Its office complex comprises four eight-storey blocks with a flexible tenancy of one to three years while other amenities include a one-stop service centre for on-site Customs, immigration and security services, and service providers such as banks, clinics and food courts.

There will also be a three-storey exhibition centre with 9,000 sq metres of display space.

"PKFZ thus becomes a central hub for investment opportunities for multinational companies, small- and medium-sized industries, distribution, value-added and logistics services to operate from a strategic location with a potential reach to a vast market via

Port Klang or even the KL International Airport located just about 50km away by road," said Azizul.

In addition, it is also connected to the Malaysian national railway grid which reaches out to Thailand easily.

PKFZ, modelled after Dubai's Jebel Ali Free Zone, is designed by JAFZA International, the consulting and management division of Jebel Ali Free Zone Authority (Jafza).

Jafza International, which will be managing PKFZ, will offer services and facilities within PKFZ covering management, sales, marketing and operations.

Jafza International has 20 years experience in port and free zone management and has helped governments develop free zones in Morocco and Djibouti. — Bernama