

## Press Clipping

### **Selangor Continues To Be Top Choice Among Investors**

#### **Business**

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By Yong Soo Heong

KLANG, Jan 19 (Bernama) -- Back in the 1960s when Malaysia embarked upon its import substitution policy, Selangor was a logical choice among investors because of its relatively advanced infrastructure with the country's premier airport and shipping port located in the state.

Today, the story is again no different for Selangor in terms of infrastructure facilities as the country's leading airport at Sepang (KLIA) and main shipping port of Port Klang are located in the state.

Port Klang interestingly has two privatised entities managing the port facilities, Northport and Westports.

A new attraction at Port Klang is the Port Klang Free Zone, an area comprising some 400 hectares, designed to promote entreport trade and manufacturing industries primarily for export.

All these facilities have helped Selangor to become an attractive manufacturing hub despite economic development in other parts of the country.

Besides the prevalence of top infrastructure facilities, the many international schools catering for the children of expatriate employees in Ampang, Ulu Klang, Sungai Buloh, Seri Kembangan, Cheras, Petaling Jaya and Subang (all in Selangor) are also major contributory factors in drawing investors to the state.

Recently, Selangor Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Dr Mohamed Khir Toyo went on an investment mission to four cities in Japan -- Tokyo, Yokohama, Osaka and Nagoya.

According to state government investment officials, the mission was a success as Dr Khir managed to attract pledges of investment amounting to more than RM1 billion from new and existing investors.

Dr Khir said that Nippon Electric Glass Co Ltd (NEG), for example, intends to increase its existing investment in Malaysia. The company makes glass bulbs for cathode ray tubes, glass tubes, chopped strands glass fibre and turntable plates for microwave ovens.

He also hailed a proposal by Nitto Denko Corporation to make Malaysia a research and development centre. The company's Malaysian unit, Nitto Denki Materials (M) Sdn Bhd, makes various types of adhesive tapes in Shah Alam for electronic and industrial companies.

Japan's Lion Corporation may consider investing in Selangor's Halal Hub, said the menteri besar.

The officials said that last year, some 226 foreign companies applied to invest in Selangor.

Selangor continued to lead the other states in terms of attracting investment. It received a total of 335 project applications last year with investment proposals worth some RM8.47 billion. This was followed by Johor with 234 projects (RM8.3 billion) and 148 projects in Penang (RM4.8 billion).

Selangor's investment promotion activities are spearheaded by the Selangor State Investment Centre.

The SSIC has since identified nine new growth centres for Selangor. They are the Multimedia Super Corridor in Cyberjaya, Northern Coastal Corridor (Sabak Bernam), Southern Coastal Corridor (Morib), Sungai Buloh-Ulu Bernam Corridor, Rawang-Kuala Kubu Baru Corridor, Banting-Bagan Terap Corridor, Sungai Besar-Ulu Bernam Corridor, Kuala Selangor-Kuala Kubu Baru Corridor and Pulau Carey-Kajang Corridor.