

## Press Clipping

Port Klang Free Zone

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THE Port Klang Free Zone project is set to provide 20,000 job opportunities and attract a huge foreign direct investment once it is fully operational, said Transport Minister Datuk Seri Chan Kong Choy.

In allaying fears about the project, Chan stressed that the RM4.6bil soft loan to Port Klang Authority from the Government was not a bail-out.

"The loan will be repaid. It is not true that the PKFZ cost ballooned from RM1.1bil to RM4.6bil because the RM1.1bil is the land acquisition cost and does not include the future payment elements, interests and basic infrastructure development," he said when winding up debates on his ministry for the 2008 budget.

Chan said the land cost included other related costs such as the building of access roads, street lighting and drainage and the 15-year deferred payment.

Opposition leader Lim Kit Siang, who was not satisfied with the answer, heckled Chan about the RM25 per square feet land cost.



**Chan: 'It will attract a huge foreign direct investment once it is fully operational'**

Chan said PKFZ, which started operations on Nov 1 last year, had attracted 35 investors with investments worth about RM725mil.

"We will maintain Port Klang as a competitive port in the region and it has already experienced double growth rate in September," he added.