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Port Klang Free Zone

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PKFZ will provide 20,000 jobs

PKFZ expects investments of over RM1b soon

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KUALA LUMPUR: Investments by local and foreign investors in the Port Klang Free Zone (PKFZ) are expected to breach the RM1 billion mark "soon", said Transport Minister Datuk Seri Chan Kong Choy.

He said since its inception a year ago, PKFZ had seen a total of 35 companies injecting some RM725 million in the fully integrated free commercial and industrial zone, while 55 more companies were in "various stages of negotiations" with PKFZ to set up operations there.

The minister said the 55 companies could potentially invest up to RM610 million in the PKFZ. He said they included four foreign entities that were expected to start operations within the next two months.

"When PKFZ is fully operational, it will create 20,000 job opportunities. We also expect more import and export activities to enhance the position of Port Klang to be an important port in this part of the world," Chan added.

Speaking to reporters after

launching the 7th annual World Free Zone Convention here yesterday, Chan said the free zone had already created 851 job opportunities.

PKFZ's general manager Datin Paduka OC Phang said the targeted 20,000 jobs available could be achieved when PKFZ reached its projected 80% occupancy in the next five years.

"We are working hard to make sure this (target) is accelerated," she said.

Phang added that its container handling volume from its export and import activities during the period of May to Oct 31 were about 890 twenty-foot equivalent units.

Chan said the spin-offs from the trade activities would benefit PKFZ as other economic activities such as freight forwarding, banking and insurance had to be developed to cater to local and foreign investors.

PKFZ's confirmed investors include Aker Kvaerner Sdn Bhd, Biodiesel SP Sdn Bhd, Biodiesel LP Sdn Bhd, Pantech Corporation Bhd and Putra Perdana Construction Sdn Bhd.