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## Bio-Technology Based Tanjung Manis Halal Hub Will Be Eco-friendly

SARIKEI, Oct 8 (Bernama) -- The Tanjung Manis Halal Hub will rely on bio-technology principles for its food production and processing industries would be an eco-friendly development, Chief Minister Tan Sri Haji Abdul Taib Mahmud said Thursday.

He said this is because the pioneer investor, Sea Party International (SPI) Group from Taiwan had laid out a good plan, focusing on developing very healthy and halal products while at the same time protecting the environment, particularly against chemical pollution.

"With the measures being undertaken, we will not have to worry about polluting our river and water systems with chemicals," he added.

He told reporters this after performing the earth breaking ceremony for a RM30 million Research and Development Centre for the SPI Group.

The Tanjung Manis halal hub is in Tanjung Manis, about 30km from here.

He said SPI too had further demonstrated its commitment by having the backing of two well-known Taiwanese universities, namely the National Taiwan Ocean University and the National Taiwan University of Science and Technology, which could provide the latest breeding technology from that country.

The SPI Group is involved in organic farming using algae and also fish and prawn aquaculture.

"We are starting on a very positive note for Tanjung Manis. This is the first development in the state where we have started with a conceived idea," he said.

Taib said the state government had now decided to increase the size of the Tanjung Manis Halal Hub to 40,000 hectares, making it the biggest in the country.

He said besides the Taiwanese group, there were others who had indicated their interest in investing in the Tanjung Manis Halal Hub.

At the same function, Taib also witnessed the signing of a memorandum of understanding (MoU) between Mimos Bhd and the Multimedia Super Corridor (MSC) Malaysia, Sarawak, for the installation of ICT application and high speed broadband infrastructure for the Tanjung Manis Halal Hub.

Mimos was represented by its director Prof. Dr. Masuri Othman and the MSC by its chief operating officer, Dr. Kamil Fitri.

Another MoU signed was between the MSC and the Tanjung Manis Food and Industrial Park. MSC is to identify potential solutions for the design and implementation of ICT applications.

The Tanjung Manis Food and Industrial Park chief operating officer, Anadn Ismail, signed on its behalf.

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