



KERATAN AKHBAR

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Mineral industry set to contribute RM29b to GDP

PUTRAJAYA: The government is targeting the mineral industry's contribution to the country's gross domestic product (GDP) to increase to RM29 billion by 2030.

Prime Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin said the industry will be developed further in a sustainable manner.

Muhyiddin said for this to materialise, all stakeholders, including the people, must work together to give their best ideas in developing the industry.

"The relevant agencies should also look into financial or non-financial incentives to support the development of a responsible and sustainable mineral industry," he said when launching the National Mineral Industry

Transformation Plan 2021-2030 yesterday.

Muhyiddin said the mineral industry's contribution to the 2019 GDP was RM9.9 billion.

"The government is also hoping for strategic collaboration among relevant quarters to transform the industry so that it will benefit the people."

However, Muhyiddin said he was disappointed that the upstream, middle and downstream levels of the industry is not balanced.

Therefore, he said the plan launched yesterday was a new national agenda that will be the main source of reference for all stakeholders to ensure the holistic development of the industry.

"In line with rapid development in the era of the fourth industrial revolution, the demand for various types of minerals continues to increase substantially.

"Technology for the future continues to depend on high mineral input, including in the manufacture of products to tackle climate change, such as solar panels, windmills, electric vehicles and energy storage devices."

Muhyiddin said Malaysia, as a country rich in mineral resources, should be wise in positioning itself and taking chances to explore and develop those resources.

"However, this does not mean that the government will allow mineral industry activities to be carried out without control." - Bernama