

10-block wet market for Nilai 3

By SIMON KHOO

A RM50mil wet market now under construction in Nilai 3, Negri Sembilan, will be operational by early next year.

Mentri Besar Tan Sri Mohamed Isa Abdul Samad said the market was part of a series of long-term development projects taking shape at the Nilai 3 wholesale centre, said to be the biggest in the country.

"The market will have 10 blocks of buildings each selling items such as groceries, meat, fish and fruits.

"There will also be a section dedicated to local handicraft products.

"We are confident the market will attract more shoppers to Nilai 3 due to its strategic location from the KL International Airport and the city centre," he said after performing the ground-breaking ceremony at the

project site on Sunday.

Also present were state assembly Speaker Datuk Muhammad Shahlan Shaid, state exco members Datuk Peter Lai Yit Fee and Datuk T. Rajagopalu and the centre's managing director Wong Ah San.

Mohd Isa said a committee had been set up to oversee the development of the wholesale centre.

He said the panel would also come up with ways to make shopping more comfortable and convenient.

"They are now mulling over plans to bar vehicles from entering the centre's compound to reduce traffic congestion and pollution.

"We want people to enjoy shopping and visit all the shops without having to lookout for oncoming vehicles," he said, adding that an additional 160 shops would open by June.

Meanwhile, Wong said future

plans include the construction of tourist and carnival parks incorporating replicas of famous buildings and structures in the world, a factory outlet and apartment blocks.

He said the committee would also provide canopies along the three main stretches of the wholesale centre for the comfort of visitors.

Currently, Wong said, an average of 7,000 shoppers visited the centre on a normal day and the figure had hit 100,000 during the last mega sales carnival in December.

Earlier, Mohd Isa, who also attended the state-level Ponggal Day celebrations, urged the people of all races especially the youths to learn about the richness of the country's culture and diversity.

He said they must understand and respect the different cultures of their peers in order to continue living in peace and harmony.



Isa performing the ground-breaking ceremony for the wet market at the Nilai 3 wholesale centre on Sunday. With him are Lai (second from right) and Wong (extreme right).