

# ETP mega projects to encourage mechanisation investments



Pic by Shahrin Yahya

**CONSTRUCTION** Industry Development Board (CIDB) expects that mega projects under the Economic Transformation Programme (ETP) will encourage more investments in mechanisation.

The ETP projects planned to be launched this year will include the 1,200ha Sungai Buloh land development and Sungai Buloh-Kajang mass rapid transit (MRT) line.

CIDB chief executive officer Datuk Seri Dr Judin Abdul Karim (*picture*) said the RM40 billion MRT development is expected to boost property developments along the MRT line, with several developers already taking advantage by building affordable housing within the area.

"These projects will spur the mechanisation investment and transformation of local construction industry. In addition, this sector will also see an increase in green technology initiatives and products," he said.

He also noted that investing in technology like Industrialised Building System will lessen Malaysia's dependence on foreign workers.

Due to the constraint of resources and time, he noted that "if construction players remain in their conventional ways, development could be delayed and in turn will see a burgeoning development cost".

"This is the main challenge in the construction industry today," he added.

Malaysia's construction sector is forecasted to grow 7% this year, the highest increase across all sectors.