

Swiftlet ranching opened to investors

By Basil Foo

KUALA LUMPUR: Swiftlet Ranching for Edible-Bird's Nest (EBN) is a novel venture for investors who can expect a return on investment of 75 percent over 35 years.

"According to independent consultant projections, each unit of the scheme would earn RM270,000 in 35 years," said Datuk Seri Dr Abdullah Fadzil Che Wan.

The Swiftlet Eco Park Bhd Group executive chairperson said this is an average annual return of 75 percent based on the price of RM10,000 per Interest Scheme Unit.

Dr Abdullah Fadzil, who spoke during the official launch of the scheme on June 16, said this is the first licensed swiftlet ranching business in Malaysia.

"The scheme has also been approved by the Companies Commission of Malaysia and is considered a low risk investment with expected high returns," he added.

Investors in the scheme will be given RM800 worth of vouchers to redeem bird's nest products in the first six years of the investment.

Based on a RM10,000 investment, the RM800 voucher represents 8 percent return per annum, much higher than fixed deposit rates of 3-4 percent offered by banks, he added.

After the construction of swiftlet ranches during the scheme's early years, the yearly return will be derived from the bird's nest harvest from year four to 35.

"The scheme has met all stringent requirements, one of which is the feasibility in providing high returns to investors," said Domestic Trade, Cooperatives and Con-



Dr Abdullah Fadzil

sumerism Minister Datuk Seri Ismail Sabri Yaakob during the launch.

The launch also saw Swiftlet Eco Park Bhd signing Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) between Rockwills Trustee Bhd and Neucor Alliance Sdn Bhd.

Rockwills has been appointed as trustee of the scheme and will introduce Prosperity Trust, a tool to protect investments from being frozen should the investor pass on.

Neucor Alliance will provide redemption services for the scheme's investors via online e-redemption methods or walk-in services.

Swiftlet Eco Park Bhd plans to employ professionals and adopt a systematic approach to developing swiftlet ranching and EBN industries on a large scale.

The group's first swiftlet project was in Manjung, Perak and has since expanded to 14 swiftlet projects in seven states.