YPU builds first 3-star hotel costing RM25million

KUALA TERENGGANU: The Terengganu Entrepreneur Development Foundation (YPU) takes a step forward with its venture into the hotel industry, with an allocation of RM25 million to build a three-star hotel here.

The hotel, named T-Hotel, is expected to be completed by year-end.

YPU General Manager Azmi Razik said the hotel is the first to be built by the agency in its move to strengthen the economic status of the Bumiputera entrepreneurs in the state. “T-Hotel is located near the intersection of Jalan Lapangan Terbang Sultan Mahmud (LTSM) because, among others, it is close to the airport and it will provide convenience in accommodation for pilgrims who are going for hajj,” he told Bernama here yesterday.

Azmi said the five-storey hotel, situated on 7,384 sq metres of land, is still under construction and it is expected to be operational early next year.

“We are considering opening hotels in other places in the state in the future if the areas are seen to have high commercial value,” he said.

He said T-Hotel will have 81 rooms comprising 70 standard rooms, seven deluxe rooms and four executive rooms, a meeting hall that can accommodate 100 people as well as swimming pool for guests.

He added that each room will be furnished along the modern concept with facilities such as LCD television, apart from other standard hotel facilities. “We will offer reasonable room rates and this will depend on the rooms desired by the guests,” he said.

At the same time, he said T-Hotel is expected to create job opportunities for more than 80 people, especially school leavers or locals who do not have permanent jobs.

He said YPU may not manage the hotel itself as it does not have the expertise in this area and it may cooperate and offer opportunities to local entrepreneurs to operate it.

“This will indirectly provide the opportunity for small and medium enterprises to place their products in the hotel to make it easier for guests to buy them,” he said.

In other developments, YPU has built T-Lodge, a two-storey budget hotel with 15 rooms in Kuala Besut which began operations early this year.

Azmi said the budget hotel offers convenience for tourists going to resort islands between Pulau Perhentian and Pulau Redang. Rooms are charged between RM75 and RM130 per night.

Meanwhile, YPU plans to open at least another five T'Shoppe stores this year following encouraging response among entrepreneurs, bringing to 26 the total number of such stores.

He said apart from opening the stores in Terengganu, T'Shoppe has spread its wings by opening outlets in Ampang, Selangor and at Universiti Utara Malaysia (UUM) in Kedah. - Bernama