



A visitor looking at **stone artifacts discovered in Gua Teluk Kelawar** at the Lenggong archaeological museum near Ipoh. Pic by L. Manimaran

Heritage site 'opening soon'

LENGGONG VALLEY: Perak looking into guide services, community role

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THE Lenggong Valley World Heritage Site, located about 100km from here, will soon be accessible to the public.

Perak Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Dr Zambry Abd Kadir said this was discussed by a special committee set up to oversee the matter.

He said the state government was also looking favourably into numerous proposals by the Perak Heritage Society, including accessibility to the site, professional guide services, a language interpretation centre for visitors, information signs and local community involvement in the project.

"We welcome any feedback and will do all we can for the betterment of Lenggong Valley to ensure it remains a World Heritage site.

"We hope the Federal Government will assist us. We will continue to work closely with them. This is not only a pride for Perak but the whole country," he said after chairing the state executive council meeting here yesterday.

Zambry said the state government would consider organising a celebration to commemorate the occasion.

Last Saturday, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation listed Lenggong Valley as a heritage site.

"It is not an easy feat for us to reach this level. It is a painstaking process which involves various parties. We started way back in 1992 and only completed the dossier to send to Unesco in 2009."

Zambry said the state would also discuss with the Federal Government to bring the skeletal remains of the Perak Man, currently showcased at the National Museum in Kuala Lumpur, back to the state to be exhibited at the archaeological museum in Lenggong.

Unesco had recognised Penang, Malacca, Mount Kinabalu and the Gunung Mulu National Park as World Heritage sites in Malaysia. Lenggong Valley is an archaeological site where evidence of human settlements from the palaeolithic age has been discovered.