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## Unesco status for three more sites sought

LENGGONG (Perak): The Ministry of Tourism and Culture has initiated the move to secure Unesco World Heritage Site status for three more places in Malaysia.

Minister Datuk Seri Mohamed Nazri Abdul Aziz named these places as the Royal Belum State Park in Gerik, Perak, the Quartz Ridge of Gombak, Selangor, and the Forest Research Institute of Malaysia, a green lung.

The ministry had sent a tentative list of documents to Unesco prior to furnishing a complete dossier on the three sites, he said in his speech at the launch of the Lenggong Carnival 2017 at Dataran Lenggong, here, Saturday night.

The text of his speech was read out by Ministry Secretary-General Datuk Ab Ghaffar A Tambi. The celebration was held in conjunction with the fifth anniversary of the recognition of the Archaeological Heritage of the Lenggong Valley as a World Heritage Site.

Besides the Lenggong Valley, Unesco has listed as World Heritage Sites the Gunung Mulu National Park in Sarawak, the Kinabalu Park in Sabah as well as the historic cities of Melaka and George Town.

"The Department of National Heritage is preparing the dossier for the nomination of the new sites with the collaboration of various quarters to fulfil the criteria and requirements of Unesco," Mohamed Nazri said in his speech.

The Lenggong Valley, recognised as a Unesco World Heritage Site on June 30, 2012, provided evidence of the existence of the world's oldest prehistoric activity in the world. It was there that the prehistoric human skeleton, the Perak Man, was found.