

# Spurring growth of Merdeka 118 Precinct

**KUALA LUMPUR:** Permodalan Nasional Bhd (PNB) through its unit PNB Merdeka Ventures Sdn Bhd is seeking out submissions for innovative ideas in the areas of sports, arts, heritage and local businesses.

It said in a statement yesterday that it had launched the Community Grants Programme with the aim of fostering an integrated, thriving and culturally rich neighbourhood within the Merdeka 118 precinct in Kuala Lumpur.

“This comprises five key locations, namely the Petaling Street Precinct, Jalan Hang Tuah Precinct, the Sports Quadrant1, Kampung Attap and Pudu Precincts,” PNB said.

“The Merdeka 118 Community Grants Programme is aimed at empowering the local community and building resilient businesses, institutions and community organisations,” it added.

PNB’s president and group chief executive, Ahmad Zulqarnain Onn said this programme’s aim was to foster synergies between the community and the Merdeka 118 development: which includes work, living and public spaces.

“It is our hope that the grants programme will unlock potential for the community and together, create a successful, vibrant precinct. We wish for local businesses, institutions and communities to thrive alongside Merdeka 118,” he said.

He noted that the experience of tenants, residents and visitors have been carefully considered to honour the historical significance of the area and to support their aspirations for the future.

“Merdeka 118 is situated in an iconic location that is rich in culture and historical significance. In line with our vision to be a landmark destination in the heart of the city, it is crucial for the development to be integrated seamlessly with the wider community,” he said.

The Merdeka 118 Grants Programme is open for submissions from June 28 to Aug 20.