

# EkuiNAS invests RM238.4m

**KUALA LUMPUR:** Ekuiti Nasional Bhd (EkuiNAS) has spent RM121 million on three investments, bringing its total investments this year to RM238.4 million in eight firms.

The government-linked private equity fund management company yesterday invested RM40 million in a new food and beverage (F&B) investment, PrimaBaguz Sdn Bhd.

EkuiNAS also made two follow-on investments in retail F&B arm Integrated Food Group Sdn Bhd (IFG) and education arm ILMU Education Group Sdn Bhd (IEG).

The acquisition of a 100 per cent stake in PrimaBaguz marks its entry into the food manufacturing sector, EkuiNAS said in a statement.

PrimaBaguz operates within the fast-growing domestic halal processed food market valued at RM13.4 billion, which is expected to grow at a five per cent compounded annual growth rate over the next five years.

It has a strong and established financial track record with revenue and pre-tax profit of RM56.5 million and RM7.5 million, respectively, for the year ended December 31 2012.

EkuiNAS said it is providing additional capital of up to RM48.8 million into IFG to help finance the acquisition of an additional 25.9 per cent stake from minority shareholders and injection of new capital into Cosmo Restaurants Sdn Bhd, the franchise owner and operator of Burger King Malaysia.

Meanwhile, EkuiNAS' follow-on investment in IEG is to enable it to invest in a controlling stake in APIIT Lanka Pvt Ltd.