

Lesotho looks to Malaysian expertise and investments

09-MAY-2011 Intellasia | ANN

9 May, 2011 - 7:00:00 AM

Lesotho, a landlocked country and enclave, surrounded by the Republic of South Africa, has invited Malaysian companies to develop its water resources which holds huge investment potential.

Besides supplying treated water for domestic and industrial usage, the world's major producer of diamond is keen to see Malaysian companies venture into hydro power generation.

Lesotho prime minister Pakalitha Mosisili said there was a huge potential in hydro power generation waiting to be tapped in the country.

"Our hydro power generation centre has the capacity to generate 72 megawatts of electricity but we need more so there is a potential for investment," he said in a joint press conference with Malaysian prime minister Najib Tun Razak at the Perdana Putra Building here.

The two leaders earlier held bilateral discussions where both countries pledged to strengthen human capital development besides exploring new areas of investments.

Najib said Malaysia would help train Lesotho's police force and invite its diplomats to enrol in the Institute of Diplomacy and Foreign Relations (IDFR) under the Malaysian Technical Cooperation Programme (MTCP).

"Since we launched the MTCP, we have received 94 officers from Lesotho for various types of training," he said.

On the police training, Najib said Mosisili had made a specific request that the Royal Malaysian Police train their officers especially in the area of public order and security as well as to help upgrade their capacity.

"The Malaysian government is ready to support this request by sending a few of our trainers soon. The training programme for Lesotho's diplomats at the IDFR here will begin in October," he added.

Mosisili, who in on his first official visit to Malaysia, later opened the country's high commission in Kuala Lumpur. -By News Desk