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Mahathir-Hotel

MAHATHIR URGES MORE MALAYSIAN FIRMS TO INVEST IN MALAWI

By: E. Sivabalan

BLANTYRE (MALAWI), May 2 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today the efforts by a Malaysian company to build an international standard hotel in this commercial city will help Malawi's tourism industry.

He said more Malaysian companies should follow the example of G-Two Holdings Berhad, a construction-based company, to invest in the republic.

"I am happy with the participation of Malaysian companies here and we would like to see more coming here," he said at the ground-breaking ceremony of the proposed Blantyre City Centre Hotel project, here.

The RM70 million project, to be undertaken by Malawi Resorts World Limited, is a joint venture between G-Two, which holds 74 per cent stake, and the Malawi Development Corporation which holds the rest.

The project is expected to be completed by end of next year. It will have a convention centre, restaurant, swimming pool and shopping arcade.

G-Two is the first major Malaysian company to operate in Malawi besides Telekom Malaysia Berhad.

The prime minister said Malaysians should assist the Malawians to develop their country and one way of doing so was by investing here.

Malawian President Dr Bakili Muluzi, in his speech, welcomed the active participation of Malaysian companies in the republic.

He too invited more Malaysian companies to invest in the various projects here and pledged that his government would support them.

Also present at the function were Malawian Tourism Minister Patrick Mbewe, G-Two executive chairman Datuk Lim Huah Leong and chairman of the Malawi Development Corporation Dr Jerry Jana.

Meanwhile, at another G-Two function here, Dr Mahathir praised the company for helping to solve the housing problems in the country through its new settlement area project.

He said the company's effort would benefit the Malawians, especially the poor.

G-Two is undertaking a RM3 billion new satellite township on a 800-hectre land. The project is expected to be completed in stages in 15 to 20 years.

The company will also build 100 low-cost houses to be given free to the Malawians.

At the ceremony, Dr Mahathir handed over a mock key of the low-cost units to Dr Muluzi. -- BERNAMA

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