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Lim-Toyota

TOYOTA AND HONDA INVITED TO SET UP TRAINING FACILITIES

SHAH ALAM, July 25 (Bernama) -- Japanese car manufacturers Toyota Motor Corporation and Honda have been invited to set up training facilities in Malaysia to help boost the skills of local automotive workers.

Human Resources Minister Datuk Lim Ah Lek said the ministry made the request through the Malaysian Embassy in Japan two weeks ago.

The move was made in response to Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad's directive to the ministry to follow up on both companies after his visit to Japan last month.

The Prime Minister visited Toyota's headquarters in Nagoya and had expressed Malaysia's interest to go into collaboration with Toyota.

However, the ministry was still waiting for the companies' response to its invitation, he told reporters after opening the Proton Workers Union's 12th Annual General Meeting here today.

"From our reliable sources, we know that they are interested in the idea, and we will be expecting them to send their technical experts here to inspect the facilities we offer," he said.

It was reported that Malaysia was willing to house the Japanese experts and their equipment at existing technical institutes in the country.

"And if they need more space, we can arrange for a bigger area for them to set up their training centre here," he said.

Lim said Malaysia would benefit a lot if the Japanese companies decided to set up their training facilities here.

"We need their help and technologies as it would certainly be of help to our local automotive industry," he said.

He said Toyota's and Honda's technologies were comparable to those of other car manufacturers in the world.

-- BERNAMA

MOT YBY