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ANDHRA PRADESH INVITES MALAYSIAN INVESTORS

KUALA LUMPUR, Aug 11 (Bernama) -- The Indian Southern state of Andhra Pradesh today invited the participation of Malaysian investors in various areas such as Information Technology (IT), pharmaceuticals and Biotechnology.

Its Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu said there were also opportunities available in areas such as tourism, housing and infrastructure development.

"We need excellent partners...we are promoting the state," he told reporters after meeting the Malaysian Telugu speaking community at the Indian High Commission building here.

Chandrababu Naidu, who is known in India as an IT-mover, arrived here today for a two-day visit to attract investment and economic cooperation.

According to the chief minister, the state government had established several special economic zones with incentives for foreign investors.

Chandrababu said a phararmacy had been established on a 5,000 hectares area with excellent connection to three ports including the Visakhapatnam, India's largest shipyard.

He said that special attention had been given to IT development and the state was doing "extremely well" in that field.

Chandrababu is scheduled to call on Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad and Works Minister Datuk Seri S. Samy Vellu and visit the Multimedia Development Corporation (MDC) in Cyberjaya tomorrow.

Currently, several Malaysian companies were involved in road construction projects in Andhra Pradesh.

Andhra Pradesh with an area of 275,608 square km has a population of over 70 million people. Its main economic activities are padi cultivation, sugarcane, peanuts and cotton industries.

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