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Najib-Tank

TANK PURCHASE TO BE LINKED WITH SALES OF COMMODITIES

KUALA LUMPUR, Aug 26 (Bernama) -- The package for the purchase of battle tanks and support vehicles from Poland as decided by the government would likely be linked to the sale of Malaysian commodities to the country.

Defence Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak said the purchase package would be offsetted with technology transfer and training.

"We will start with our commercial discussion soon to determine the cost of the 48 tanks and 14 support vehicles to be acquired from that country. We will try our best to solve this matter in three months," he told reporters after receiving the Foreign Affairs Minister of Poland, Dr Wlodzimierz Cimoszewicz, at the ministry here today.

Najib said the first batch of the tanks, which would be assembled in Poland and incorporated with several components in Malaysia, would be delivered after about a year.

He said the decision to purchase the tanks was announced by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad during his visit to the country in March.

Najib said he had informed Cimoszewicz during his visit that discussions on the technical aspects of the purchased tanks were already completed.

He said the technical aspects covered specifications required by the army including all the sub-systems.

-- BERNAMA

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