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Felda-Sierra Leone

SIERRA LEONE INVITES FELDA TO DEVELOP A PILOT PROJECT

BANDAR SERI JEMPOL, Oct 21 (Bernama) -- Sierra Leone President Dr Ahmed Tejan Kabbah has invited the Malaysian government and Felda to assist in a pilot project in his country.

He said today that he was very impressed with the Felda schemes to improve the settlers' income and would ask Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad and the Malaysian government to share Felda's experience with Sierra Leone.

"We will provide 2,000ha of land for the pilot project," he told reporters after visiting Felda Raja Alias 2, here.

He was accompanied by his Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation Minister, Momodu Koroma, and Agriculture, Forestry and Food Security Minister Dr Sama S. Monde.

Deputy Entrepreneur Development Minister Datuk Mohamed Khalid Yunus was the minister-in-attendance.

The delegation spent three hours visiting the Felda factory, plantation area and the settlers' homes.

They briefed were on Felda's development and activities by its Director-General, Khamis Mohamed Som, and had lunch at the house of Padzilah Mohamed Sawie, one of the successful settlers, before departing for Kuala Lumpur in an army helicopter.

Dr Kabbah said Felda could share its expertise and experience with Sierra Leone in developing the country and improve its people's knowledge in the palm oil industry.

"Most of my people had moved to the major cities during the war period and it's made the cities overcrowded.

I believe we can make use of the Felda settlement scheme concept to overcome that problem in my country," he said.

-- BERNAMA

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