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Wooing talent abroad with high speed rail

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PM in Japan: Najib arrives with Liow in Japan for their official three-day visit — Bernama

Prove that you are as good as those in advanced countries, says PM

TOKYO: Projects like the High Speed Rail between Kuala Lumpur and Singapore will create job opportunities that can attract Malaysian talent from abroad to return home.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak said he wanted Malaysians abroad to take up his challenge of proving themselves equal to any worker in advanced countries by learning the newest technology.

"I hope Malaysians will develop their talent in Japan and hopefully return to Malaysia," he said during a reception for 260 Malaysian students and businessmen here last night.

Citing the example of the current construction of the MET, Najib said this would not only improve public transport in the Klang Valley, it had also created employment for some 2,800 young engineers.

"With the High Speed Rail, thousands of engineers and professionals can take part in this project.

"This is our responsibility - create the opportunities to bring back the talent," said Najib, who is on a three-day official visit to Japan.

Japan, he said, had indicated high interest in the High Speed Rail, and his counterpart Shiroo Abe was expected to highlight how his

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in Japan



country would focus on infrastructure development in their bilateral meeting today.

Both Najib and Transport Minister Datuk Seri Liow Tiong Lai are expected to take the Shinkansen from Tokyo to Sendai tomorrow.

"The main reason for my trip is how we can loom at our bilateral relationship on a multi-faceted basis," he said, adding that they were also looking at restarting daily flights between Tokyo and Kuala Lumpur by a Japanese airline from September.

Malaysians, he said, should also not think negatively of their country, adding that it had, among others, placed itself among the top five emerging markets in a ranking by Bloomberg and 18th in the World Bank's Ease of Doing Business.

However, Najib said there were challenges, such as the Government's efforts to double the household income of the bottom 40%.