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Najib's visit to China yields RM144b in trade deals

BEIJING • Datuk Seri Mohd Najib Razak's third official visit to China is not only historical from the business perspective as it consolidates bilateral ties, but also resulted in a landmark decision on defence.

The prime minister said in terms of successes on trade agreements, Malaysian and Chinese companies made historic achievements with the signing of 14 agreements worth RM144 billion.

In breaking new ground, the Malaysian government also made a landmark decision to buy four Littoral Mission Ships (LMSs) from China, with two to be built in China and the other two in Malaysia, Najib told a press conference with the Malaysian media here yesterday.

Najib said the amount was the biggest ever recorded in conjunction with his official visit overseas, and it was a historic achievement.

"My official visit to China this time has brought very encouraging results and this achievement brings the bilateral relations between Malaysia and China to a higher level, a new high," he said.

Najib, who is on a six-day official visit to China beginning Monday, had witnessed the exchange of 14 business arrangements with proposed investments estimated at RM143.64 billion at the Malaysia-China Business Forum here yesterday.

The agreements and memoranda of understanding comprise:

1. Engineering, Procurement, Construction and Commissioning Agreement between Malaysia Rail Link Sdn Bhd, China Communications Construction Co Ltd and China Communications Construction Co (M) Sdn Bhd.

2. Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) for investment, development and construction of Malacca Gateway Project (KAJ Development Sdn Bhd and Powerchina International Group Ltd).

3. Heads of Agreement (HoAs) between Bandar Malaysia Sdn Bhd and Greenland Holdings Group Overseas Investment Co

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STRONGER DEFENCE TIES: Najib (standing, second from left) with China Prime Minister Li Keqiang (standing, right) witnessing the signing of an MoU to enhance and strengthen defence cooperation between Malaysia and China. Defence Minister Datuk Seri Hishammuddin Hussein (sitting, left) signed for Malaysia while his counterpart Chang Wanquan signed on behalf of China.

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