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# PM meets Japanese industry captains

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**CLOSER TIES:** Tokyo offers Shinkansen train for HSR project, among others

PRIME Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak met Japanese business leaders from various industries at a lunch hosted by Hiroto Izumi, special adviser to Japan Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, here yesterday.

During the 90-minute session, they discussed possible areas for closer business ties between Malaysian and Japanese companies, said Malaysian officials.

Among those present was a top official of the East Japan Railway Co. The company operates all of the Shinkansen high-speed rail lines north of Tokyo.

Japan is pitching the Malaysian and Singapore governments to opt for the Shinkansen for the Kuala Lumpur-Singapore high-speed rail link.



*Reporting from Tokyo*

The business leaders who attended the luncheon were Mitsubishi Corp chairman Mikio Sasaki, Sumitomo Corp chairman Kazuo Omori and East Japan Railway Co president and chief executive officer (CEO) Tetsuro Tomita.

Others business leaders who attended were Mitsui Co Ltd CEO Tatsuo Yasunaga, NEC Corp chairman Nobuhiro Endo, Taisei Construction

chairman Takashi Yamauchi, Japan Gas Co Ltd CEO Michiaki Hirose, Japan Petroleum Exploration Co Ltd CEO Hideichi Okada and IHI Corp CEO Tsugio Mitsuoka.

Earlier yesterday, top officials of the Japan-Malaysia Parliamentary Friendship Association called on Najib at his hotel.

The nine-member delegation was led by association chairman Keiji Furuya, who is also a member of the Japanese House of Representatives.

Among those who attended were Ministers in the Prime Minister's Department Datuk Seri Shahidan Kassim and Datuk Abdul Rahman Dahlan.

Najib was also called on by Japan External Trade Organisation chairman and CEO Hiroyuki Ishige.

Also present were Malaysian Investment Development Authority CEO Datuk Azman Mahmud and Malaysia External Trade Development Corporation CEO Datuk Dzulkifli Mahmud.