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PM: We'll monitor Gulf region closely

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Malaysia to observe situation following Arab states' cutting of ties with Qatar

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KUALA LUMPUR: Malaysia will observe developments in the Gulf region after more Arab states officially cut ties with Qatar.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak said he was aware of the situation brewing among the Gulf countries.

"I know, but we will see what the developments are.

"We are close to the Gulf countries and we do not know what the issues are, but at the moment we will watch the developments," he told reporters after a working visit to the Tun Razak Exchange (TRX)

project site yesterday.

Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, the United Arab Emirates and Egypt cut diplomatic ties with Qatar early yesterday, saying they would close off air and sea traffic to the nation.

The Maldives, Yemen and Libya followed suit later in the day.

In a statement, Saudi Arabia said the decision was made due to Qatar's "embrace of various terrorist and sectarian groups aimed at destabilising the region".

Egypt's foreign ministry had accused Qatar of taking an "antagonist approach" towards it and that efforts to stop Qatar from supporting terrorist groups had failed.

Bahrain accused Qatar of media

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incitement, supporting armed terrorist activities and funding groups to sabotage and spread chaos in the nation.

On the TRX City construction, Najib said he was satisfied with the pace of development, which he described as being "on schedule".

He also observed that TRX was in no hurry to sell the remaining lots (of land) as it wanted to get the best offer possible.

"Many financial institutions are now interested.

"This will be the next central business district in Kuala Lumpur, so it will be a very attractive development," he said.

The Prime Minister also observed that the 4ha of park land within TRX City would improve the value and lifestyle of the place.

"The China Construction Bank is

already negotiating to build a signature tower here, so I hope other institutions will follow suit.

"There will be one - maybe six-star - hotel here, and other forms of cultural attractions and entertainment as well.

"This is not just about commercial buildings. It will be a kind of centre that will enable you to enjoy the kind of lifestyle commensurate with global standard development," he added.



Arab states cut
Qatar ties in crisis
See page 20