

Kazakhstan woos Malaysia
TheStarOnline
April 19, 2012
By ZUHRIN AZAM AHMAD

PUTRAJAYA: Kazakhstan has invited Malaysian investors and businessmen to spread their wings to the country as it industrialises its economy.

With a total of US\$50bil (RM153bil) to be invested by 2020 for a wide range of development programmes, Kazakhstan called on Malaysian companies to explore the opportunities available there.

Kazakhstan President Nursultan Nazarbayev said the country was building between 200 and 300 new industrial facilities every year.

"By 2020, we would have invested US\$50bil," he said yesterday at a joint press conference with Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak at a bilateral meeting at Perdana Putra here.

He said Kazakhstan regarded Malaysia as its priority partner in the Asia-Pacific region.

"We are intensively sharing and learning experiences from Malaysia.

"We hope our business delegation will be able to return home with specific agreements in the areas of energy, oil and gas exploration, petrochemical, construction, development of mineral resources and financing," he added.

Najib said apart from oil and gas, the construction sector could offer Malaysian companies new opportunities.

"It includes the construction of highways, hospitals and other infrastructure such as airports."

Najib said the leaders of both nations were confident that bilateral trade would increase.

Last year, the total trade between both countries was US\$61.1mil (RM187mil).

Earlier, the Yang di-Pertuan Agong Tuanku Abdul Halim Mu'adzam Shah welcomed Nazarbayev in an official ceremony held at Dataran Parlimen in Kuala Lumpur.

Copyright © 1995-2012 Star Publications (M) Bhd

Source: <http://thestar.com.my/news/story.asp?file=/2012/4/19/nation/11135546&sec=nation>