

Southern Philippines Peace Agreement A Positive Development For Sabah, Says PM
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PENAMPANG, Oct 13 (Bernama) -- Malaysia's success in bringing about peace in southern Philippines will have a positive effect on Sabah, said Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak today.

He said the four-decades long conflict in that region had caused instability and lack of growth leading to the presence of illegal immigrants in the state.

"If southern Philippines can be developed, there's no more excuse for them (people from the area) to enter Sabah. This is very good for Sabah," he said during the ground breaking ceremony of the Native Court Training Institute building and opening of the Inobong bridge in Padang Pagansakan, near here Saturday.

On Sunday, Najib had welcomed the announcement of the framework peace agreement between the government of Philippines and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF).

The announcement was made following the talks held by the two parties in Kuala Lumpur between Oct 2 and 7.

Malaysia had played the role of facilitator in the negotiations that led to the reaching of the peace accord.

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