

1Malaysia Good Concept For Sri Lanka To Emulate In Rebuilding Itself

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KUALA LUMPUR, Feb 4 (Bernama) -- The 1Malaysia concept is a good platform for Sri Lankans to learn and adopt in their efforts to rebuild their nation after three decades of civil war that ended in 2009, says Sri Lanka's Acting High Commissioner, Major-General Lalith Daulagala.

"The war was a painful piece of history for Sri Lankans, and now the people want to reunite as one," he said after a flag-hoisting ceremony to mark Sri Lanka's 65th anniversary of independence at the High Commission, here, today.

"Malaysia and Sri Lanka actually share similar sentiments, as both countries have a multi-ethnic, multi-lingual and multi-religious society, and known worldwide as multi-cultural."

He said with the end of Sri Lanka's 30-year internal conflict, the country was now focusing on expanding its economic horizons.

"We are now aggressively working at further developing sectors like irrigation, agriculture, fishing and tourism.

"This is all geared towards turning Sri Lanka into a developed and prosperous country."

As such, he said, the 1Malaysia concept mooted by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak was something the people of Sri Lanka would want to have a closer look at.

In his speech, Daulagala noted the good relations between the two countries, saying their defence and security cooperation had grown steadily, with several high-level visits by and continuous training for Sri Lankan and Malaysian defence personnel in each other's country.

Sri Lanka's Independence Day is celebrated on Feb 4 to commemorate its independence from British rule in 1948.

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