KL-Beijing milestone
Najib and Wen launch 55 sq km Qinzhou industrial park

Malaysia offers China similar project in Kuantan

MINISTER: Malaysia has offered China a development project similar to the China-Malaysia Qinzhou Industrial Park.

Prime Minister Tun Dr. Mahathir Mohamad said his government has agreed in principle to develop a similar project in Kuantan and will work out the details with the Chinese government.

"As a special envoy to China, Tan Sri Datuk Dr. Tuan will coordinate the project with the parties involved in Malaysia and China. Najib told the Malaysian press after his one-day visit to China yesterday that Kuantan was chosen for the project because it had a port that faced the South China Sea, which is the most direct link with the deepwater Qinzhou port and others in the Guangzhou and Guangxi autonomous regions.

Wen said the Chinese government would support investment by Chinese companies in Malaysia and added that both the Chinese and Malaysia sides could explore building the park.

Najib and Wen met for bilateral talks in Nanning yesterday before launching the Qinzhou Industrial Park.

Najib returned to Malaysia later in the evening.

The Federation of Chinese Associations Malaysia (FICAM) is to make the proposal in Najib for the industrial park in Kuantan next year.

"The Malaysia-China Kuantan Industrial Park can become the sister park of the one in Qinzhou. By working closely with the Qinzhou park, such a project in Kuantan will surely bring about rapid development in Faling," FICAM president Tan Sri Dato' Sri Tan Kean Cheah said.

On another matter, Najib said the Malaysian and Chinese governments were considering opening up an air route between Malaysia and Nanning, which would be operated by AirAsia.