

in the early stages of development. We are prepared to make major investments here to help make this system a reality.

In telecommunications, our data transmission, wireless and rural telephone technologies all have wide application in assisting Indonesia to meet its planned national network objectives.

Canada knows well the need to transmit voice and data across great distances. Many of our firms are already well established with local partners in Indonesia to provide these value-added services.

We are also looking for new sectoral investment opportunities. I believe that there will be good take-up in Canada in the imminent PT Telkom international public share offering.

The expansion of your mining sector, in which Inco of Canada has been engaged since the late 1960s, also provides the basis for further business co-operation.

Twelve Canadian "contracts of work" in the mining sector are pending final approval with the Government of Indonesia. I hope that these can be concluded successfully in the weeks and months immediately ahead.

Indonesians and Canadians are also co-operating closely in the protection of the environment. Canadians have had the privilege of assisting in the formulation of Indonesia's environmental regulatory framework. Our engineering and service firms are demonstrating technologies to meet specific environmental priorities such as water resources management.

The firms that have accompanied me on this mission - many of whom are actively involved in all these and other sectors - are representative of an expanding number of Canadian entrepreneurs who have made, and are making, a commitment to Indonesia.

They are investing their capital and human resources to contribute to meeting Indonesia's national economic development priorities.

I was privileged to open yesterday the new offices of SNC-Lavalin, Canada's largest consulting engineering company, here in Jakarta.

Their new joint venture demonstrates the commitment by Canadians to working closely with Indonesian associates to meet the growing infrastructure demands of your fast-growing economy.

There are at least one dozen Canadian engineering companies with a presence in Indonesia, working in an array of sectors with Indonesian partners.