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voices

Suu Kyi visit emphasises potential of S'pore-Myanmar ties

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FROM DHEVARAJAN DEVADAS

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The official visit of Myanmar State Counsellor Aung San Suu Kyi to Singapore underscores the current strength of our bilateral ties as well as the enormous potential they have, going forward. ("Suu Kyi calls on Singapore to be partners 'in hearts and minds' with Myanmar; Dec 1)

As Myanmar continues to emerge from past isolation, Singapore is well placed to assist in the nation's infrastructural and economic modernisation. The announcement of talks towards a bilateral investment treaty presents a huge opportunity for Singapore companies seeking to enter one of the last frontiers of business in the region.

It will also benefit the large and well-educated Myanmar community in Singapore, by encouraging more cross-border investment and collaboration with enterprises back home.

Ms Suu Kyi has welcomed our expertise in various sectors, including skills training and anti-corruption measures.

These are vital building blocks for a more competitive and sustainable market economy that could contribute to lifting Myanmar's population out of poverty.

The people of Myanmar now face a future of great potential and opportunity. Singapore should do all it can to help Myanmar and its people succeed in their endeavours.

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