

Dr M lists main issues for China trip

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KUALA LUMPUR: South-South co-operation and bilateral and international issues will top the agenda of talks between Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad and Chinese leaders during his visit to China next week.

The Prime Minister said he also looked forward to finding out the role China intends to play in East Asia.

"This visit is for me to see the developments in China since my last trip there in 1985," he told newsmen after opening the G15 Experts Group Meeting on the Exchange of Information on National Economic Policies yesterday.

Dr Mahathir said he would visit places which he had not been able to tour during the brief 1985 trip.

He is leading a 290-member delegation to China for a 10-day visit beginning on Monday.

It would be the largest group led by Dr Mahathir abroad.

Malaysian and Chinese businessmen would sign at least 12 multi-million ringgit agreements during the visits.

These include deals to build electric power stations and amusement parks.

Dr Mahathir also said that Malaysia now exports more than one million tonnes of palm oil and other items to China.

On a proposal by some Western countries to appoint a Commissioner on Human Rights, he said he did not see how one person could act as a "superman" who can decide on what was right and wrong.

Developing countries, particularly those from Asia, has regarded the proposal as a threat to their sovereignty.

The conference, from Monday until June 25, is the first in 25 years.

The last conference was held in Teheran.