

17 JAN 1996  
Canada-visit

CANADIAN PM ARRIVES TOMORROW FOR VISIT

KUALA LUMPUR, Jan 17 (Bernama) -- Canadian Prime Minister Jean Chretien will arrive here tomorrow for a two-day visit to Malaysia at the invitation of Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

A Wisma Putra statement says that in addition to enhancing the close political ties between the two countries, Chretien's visit was also intended to expand bilateral economic cooperation and trade.

He will be accompanied by his wife, Aline, Minister for International Trade Roy MacLaren, Secretary of State for Asia Pacific Raymond Chan and 'Team Canada' comprising premiers of several Canadian provinces, senior government officials and corporate leaders.

Chretien is expected to hold discussions with Dr Mahathir on the promotion of bilateral relations and to have an audience with Yang di-Pertuan Agong Tuanku Ja'afar and Raja Permaisuri Agong Tuanku Najihah.

Malaysia and Canada are also scheduled to sign several agreements and memorandums of understanding covering specific areas of bilateral cooperation.

The Canadian Prime Minister will attend the First Malaysia-Canada Business Forum where he is to address leaders of the corporate sector from both countries.

His other activities here include visits to the Kuala Lumpur City Centre and the light rail transit projects.

Total Malaysia-Canada trade between January and September 1994 stood at RM1.44 billion, or just 0.64 per cent of Malaysia's global trade. This included RM1.02 billion worth of exports to Canada.

Malaysia imports, among others, foodstuff, raw materials, industrial materials, telecommunications equipment and pharmaceutical products from Canada.

-- Bernama