

21 AUG 1997

China-visit

LI PENG ARRIVES FOR FOUR-DAY VISIT

KUALA LUMPUR, Aug 21 (Bernama) -- China's Premier Li Peng (pronounced as Lee Pang) arrived here today to begin a four-day official visit.

Li's 117-member entourage includes his wife Zhu Lin, Deputy Secretary-General of the State Council He Chunlin, Minister of the Machine-Building Industry Bao Xuding, Vice-Foreign Minister Tang Jiaxuan, and other senior government officials.

He was received at the Sultan Abdul Aziz Shah International airport in Subang by Foreign Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi and Rural Development Minister Datuk Annuar Musa, who is the minister-in-attendance.

Li then left in a motorcade to Parliament Square for the official welcoming ceremony.

His itinerary includes bilateral talks with Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad tomorrow.

At Parliament Square, Li and Zhu Lin were received by Dr Mahathir and his wife Datin Seri Dr Siti Hasmah Mohd Ali.

Li then inspected a guard-of-honour mounted by 106 officers and men of the 1st Battalion Royal Malay Regiment under Major Hamdi Abdul Rahman.

Tonight, Li is scheduled to attend a dinner in his honour by Dr Mahathir at Sri Perdana, the prime minister's official residence.

Tomorrow, Li will receive Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim and his wife Datin Seri Dr Wan Azizah Wan Ismail.

Li's meeting with Dr Mahathir tomorrow will be followed by Sino-Malaysia bilateral talks at the Prime Minister's Department.

Li and Zhu Lin are also scheduled for an audience with the Yang di-Pertuan Agong Tuanku Ja'afar and Raja Permaisuri Agong Tuanku Najihah at Istana Negara here tomorrow.

Premier Li and wife will later be spending the week-end in Pulau Pinang.

Li leaves for Singapore on Sunday for a two-day visit enroute home on Tuesday. -- BERNAMA

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