

22/08/1997

Li set for in-depth talks on bilateral ties

KUALA LUMPUR, Thurs. - China's Prime Minister Li Peng said his visit to Malaysia was to see the new achievements the country had registered in recent years in its economic and social development.

Both countries were friendly neighbours and the people of the two countries enjoyed a profound friendship, he said in a statement issued on his arrival here today for a four-day visit.

He said in recent years, thanks to joint efforts, bilateral relations have witnessed rapid development as evidenced by the frequent exchange of visits between leaders of the two countries.

He said this gratified results of co-operation in economic, trade, cultural and educational fields and further strengthened traditional ties between people of both countries.

Li added that he looked forward to an in-depth exchange of views with Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad on bilateral relations and other matters of mutual interest.

Tomorrow, Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim would make a courtesy call on Li. Li will also deliver a public lecture, organised by the Institute of Diplomatic and Foreign Relations.

Dr Mahathir and Li are scheduled to hold private talks before delegations of both countries discuss bilateral issues at the Prime Minister's Department.

Li and his wife Zhu Lin are also scheduled to have an audience with Yang di-Pertuan Agong Tuanku Ja'afar and Raja Permaisuri Agong Tuanku Najihah at Istana Negara.

The delegation will leave for Penang on Saturday morning before proceeding to Singapore on Sunday.

(END)