

30 JUL 1997

Nawaz-visit

PAKISTAN PM BEGINS THREE-DAY VISIT TOMORROW

KUALA LUMPUR, July 30 (Bernama) -- Pakistan Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif is scheduled to begin a three-day visit to Malaysia tomorrow aimed at consolidating economic ties between the two nations.

He will be accompanied by a 50-member entourage comprising ministers and leading businessmen representing different sectors of the Pakistani economy.

His entourage includes Foreign Minister Gohar Ayub Khan, Commerce Minister Mohamad Ishaq Dar, Finance Minister Sartaj Aziz and chairman of Pakistan's Privatization Commission, Khwaja Asif.

According to the official programme of his visit released here, Sharif is scheduled to hold talks with his Malaysian counterpart Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad on Friday.

Following the talks, the two prime ministers will witness the signing of several agreements for projects initiated by businessmen of both countries.

On the same day, he will receive Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim and later Economic Adviser to the Government Tun Daim Zainuddin at his Regent Hotel suite.

He will be interviewed by the Malaysian media later in the evening before attending a dinner hosted by Dr Mahathir at Sri Perdana, the prime minister's official residence.

On Saturday, the premier will visit the Institute of Public Administration (Intan) at Bukit Kiara near here before giving a keynote address at a luncheon to be hosted by the National Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Malaysia at Istana Hotel.

Meanwhile, a spokesman of the Pakistan High Commission here said the visit by Sharif, who became Prime Minister for the second time in February this year, is to reciprocate a similar visit by Dr Mahathir to Pakistan in April.

The Pakistani leader leaves for home on Sunday. -- BERNAMA

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