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SRI LANKAN PRESIDENT TO VISIT MALAYSIA NEXT WEEK

KUALA LUMPUR, Sept 13 (Bernama) -- President of Sri Lanka, Chandrika Bandaranaike Kumaratunga, accompanied by a 20-member business delegation, will undertake a state visit to Malaysia next week.

A statement from The High Commission of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka said this would be the first official visit to Malaysia by a Sri Lankan Head of State or Government since Prime Minister Dudley Senanayake visited Malaysia in 1967.

During her visit, the President will hold talks with Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamed and witness the signing of government to government agreements between Sri Lanka and Malaysia.

A number of Memorandum of Understanding will be also be signed between the Board of Investment of Sri Lanka (BOI) and leading private sector conglomerates in Malaysia on projects including infrastructure development, industrial and science parks, airport expansion and technological co-operation.

The visit is expected to boost economic ties between Sri Lanka and Malaysia which have shown an upward trend in recent years.

Sri Lanka's export to Malaysia has increased sharply from US\$6 million (RM17.7 million) in 1994 to US\$27 million (RM79.65 million) in 1996 while Malaysian investment in Sri Lanka has increased by 66 percent over the past two years. -- BERNAMA

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