

# Dr M to visit South Korea on May 22

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KUALA LUMPUR, Fri. Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad will make a two-day official visit to South Korea at the invitation of President Kim Dae Jung from May 22.

The visit is to renew personal ties with the Korean leaders and build closer rapport and understanding between the leaders of both countries.

Wisma Putra said the main objective of the visit was to further enhance bilateral relations with the Republic of Korea.

Dr Mahathir will be accompanied by Foreign Minister Datuk Seri Syed Hamid Albar, International Trade and Industry Minister Datuk Seri Rafidah Aziz and Energy, Communications and Multimedia

Minister Datuk Amar Leo Moggie.

Also accompanying the Prime Minister are Kedah Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Syed Razak Syed Zain and senior government officials.

Wisma Putra said Dr Mahathir would address a business luncheon organised by four major Korean business associations and visit Hyundai Motor Research and Development, LG Chemical Investment and Satellite Technology Research Centre Initiative.

The Prime Minister is expected to discuss bilateral, regional and international issues of mutual interest with Kim.

During the visit, five Memoranda of Understanding will be signed including MoU between Malaysian External Trade Development Cor-

poration and Korea International Trade Association; MoU between Naza Kia Sdn Bhd and Kia Motors Corporation and MoU between LG Chem Investment Ltd and Innobiologies Sdn Bhd.

Prior to his official visit to South Korea, Dr Mahathir will make a working visit to Japan where he will deliver a keynote speech entitled "China — A challenge or an opportunity for Asean?" at the Eighth Nikkei International Conference.

Dr Mahathir is also scheduled to meet the Japanese Prime Minister, Minister of Finance and Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry.

The Prime Minister will then travel to Nagasaki to name a MISC-owned ship.