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India-High Commissioner

INDIA'S NEW HIGH COMMISSIONER TO ARRIVE WITHIN A MONTH

KUALA LUMPUR, Nov 27 (Bernama) -- The new Indian High Commissioner to Malaysia, Rajamani Laxmi Narayan, is expected to arrive here within a month.

Narayan is currently India's ambassador to Poland.

Outgoing High Commissioner Veena Sikri announced the name of her successor to the media during a farewell call on the dean of the diplomatic corps in Malaysia, Kenyan High Commissioner James Kihiu Karuga.

Sikri, who has served in Kuala Lumpur since Sept 2000, will leave for her next posting as High Commissioner to Bangladesh on Dec 8.

Before her departure, she hopes to witness the signing of an agreement next week to set up a chair of contemporary Indian studies at Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia and a chair of contemporary Malay studies at the University of Madras in India.

She will also inaugurate the Indian Cultural Centre at the High Commission in Kuala Lumpur.

Sikri, who paid a farewell visit to Foreign Minister Datuk Seri Syed Hamid Albar earlier today, said there had been many high-level bilateral visits during her term.

Former prime minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad visited India last year and Indian prime minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee has visited Malaysia twice.

Sikri hopes that Malaysia's new prime minister, Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi, will also pay an official visit to India.

-- BERNAMA

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