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Chinese delegation meets Dr M

PUTRAJAYA, Tues. - A 30-member Chinese delegation, who are in Malaysia to attend the on-going Economic and Industry Forum, met former Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad at his office here.

The 30-minute meeting was to obtain the views of Dr Mahathir on current Malaysia-China ties after both countries initiated diplomatic relations in 1974.

"The meeting was arranged as the delegation wanted to get a first-hand view from Dr Mahathir on how existing ties can be enhanced," forum co-organiser Johnny Tai said.

He said the meeting was significant as next year also marked the 30th anniversary of bilateral relations between Kuala Lumpur and Beijing.

Members of the group are from the School of Economics and Management, Tsinghua University in Beijing.

They were led by Professor Chen Zhangwu, senior associate dean of the school.

Also present at the meeting was Tan Sri Lee Kim Yew, managing director of Country Heights Holdings Bhd and a co-organiser of the forum being held at the Palace of the Golden Horses.

About 150 people, including 68 from China, are attending the one-week convention which started yesterday. The itinerary comprises industrial visits and leisure trips to Penang, Kuala Lumpur and Genting Highlands.