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PM tees off at Malaysia-China golf tourney

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PUTRAJAYA: Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak yesterday played golf with businessmen and industrialists at the 41st Malaysia-China Friendly Golf Competition at the IOI Palm Garden Golf Club here.

He arrived at 7.30am before teeing off at 8.10am.

Present were commercial counselor of the Chinese Embassy in Malaysia, Wu Zhengping, and Malay Businessmen and Industrialist Association of Malaysia (Perdasama) president Datuk Moehamad Izat Emir.

The competition is organised by Perdasama to commemorate the political and economic relations between Malaysia and China.

In a foreword message in a pamphlet on the tournament, Najib said the friendly golf tournament

and business luncheon would be small steps taken in the journey of thousand of miles by both nations.

"Bilateral relations between China and Malaysia is something close to my heart.

"For it was my father, the late Tun Abdul Razak who took the bold step 41 years ago, as the first Asean nation to establish diplomatic relation with the People's Republic of China, many years before the end of what is popularly known as the Cold War," he said.

Najib said efforts to boost ties must continue to be pursued and executed with determination on both sides to produce outcomes that both nations aspired to achieve.

"(The small steps between) government to government, business to

business and people to people relations can be enhanced."

Perdasama vice-president Datuk Naim Mohamad said 120 participants from both nations, including guests from the public and private sectors, participated in the tournament.

He said the competition was also aimed at raising funds for the Malaysia Disaster Relief Fund.

Later, Najib received a contribution of RM100,000, which was raised from the tournament, from Naim for the relief fund.

He also presented the Tun Razak Challenge Trophy to the defending champion.

Perdasama announced its agreement with SM International Wholesale Centre to launch the China Aid Alumni Association of Malaysia.

Bernama