

Giant Pandas Off To KL Before Najib's Visit To China, Says Xinhua
Bernama
May 14, 2014
By Niam Seet Wei

BEIJING, May 14 (Bernama) -- The sending-off ceremony of two long-awaited giant pandas, Fengyi (female) and Fuwa (male), is expected to take place before Malaysian Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak's official visit to China, said Chinese ambassador to Malaysia Huang Huikang.

The move showed China had attached great importance to the 40th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Malaysia and China, China's state-run news agency, Xinhua quoted Huang as saying.

Malaysia and China had signed an agreement on June 15 last year, whereby the two giant pandas would be loaned to Malaysia for a period of 10 years in conjunction with the 40th anniversary celebration of diplomatic ties between the two countries this year.

The arrangement came about following Najib's request to former Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao during his official visit to Nanning in 2012.

Najib is expected to pay an official visit to China soon as May 31 marks the 40th anniversary of diplomatic ties between the two countries.

His trip to China is at the invitation of his Chinese counterpart, Xi Jinping following the Chinese president's state visit to Malaysia in October last year.

-- BERNAMA

Copyright © 2014 BERNAMA

Source: <http://www.bernama.com/bernama/v7/newsindex.php?id=1038078>