

**Outgoing Indian PM Expresses Gratitude To Najib Over Transformation Of
India-Malaysia Ties**
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KUALA LUMPUR, May 15 (Bernama) -- Outgoing Indian Prime Minister Dr Manmohan Singh has expressed his sincere gratitude to his Malaysian counterpart Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak for his steadfast commitment and efforts that have helped transform relations between India and Malaysia.

A statement released by the Indian High Commission here Thursday said Manmohan Singh sent a letter to Najib yesterday, expressing the gratitude and mentioning that their reciprocal visits in 2010 and the elevation of India-Malaysia relations to a strategic partnership opened a new chapter in India-Malaysia relations.

"The Prime Minister (Manmohan Singh) has added (in the letter to Najib) that there is a new dynamism and momentum in our (India and Malaysia) engagement and that the cooperation has become comprehensive and now encompasses a range of areas," the statement said.

The statement said Manmohan Singh also expressed his thanks for Malaysia's support to the deepening of partnership between India and Asean.

In the letter, Manmohan Singh referred to the generous and warm friendship which the two leaders had shared in the past several years and that the leadership of Najib would continue to be important for strengthening India-Malaysia relations and advancing regional cooperation and integration.

Manmohan Singh, who did not contest the just-concluded elections, steps down on Saturday.

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