

Malaysia Extends Visa for Maldivians to 90 Days
Bernama
March 29, 2016

PUTRAJAYA, March 29 (Bernama) -- Malaysia has agreed to consider extending visa for Maldivians to 90 days to encourage them to visit the country, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak said today.

He made the announcement at a joint press conference after talks at his office here with Maldives President Abdulla Yameen Abdul Gayoom who began a two-day official visit to Malaysia yesterday.

Maldivians are now allowed to stay up to 30 days.

Najib also said that "a significant number" of Maldivian students were in Malaysia and he expects more Maldivians to enrol in institutions in the country.

The Prime Minister also said that Malaysia and Maldives had agreed to a proposal to set up a Maldives cultural centre in Kuala Lumpur to promote cultural exchanges between the two countries.

Najib said the two countries also discussed issues related to extremism and terrorism.

"We have agreed to work closely in combating global terrorism, transnational crime and extremism.

"I am delighted with the outcome of the discussions and look forward to working closely with the President to strengthen ties," he said.

Abdulla Yameen said his maiden visit to Malaysia was "very successful", with fruitful discussions on regional and international issues.

He said the Maldives and Malaysia enjoyed good relations that went back 48 years.

On the visa agreement, he said: "Many Maldivians are studying in Malaysia while prominent lawyers in Maldives studied in Malaysian universities. We encourage more Maldivians to study here."

Abdulla Yameen invited Najib to visit the Maldives.

-- BERNAMA

Copyright © 2015 BERNAMA

<http://www.bernama.com/bernama/v8/newsindex.php?id=1229664>