

**Malaysia and Sri Lanka Enjoy Close Relations - Ahmad Zahid**  
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**From R. Ravichandran**

COLOMBO (SRI LANKA), July 22 (Bernama) -- Malaysia and Sri Lanka enjoy close relations, diplomatically and culturally, said Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Ahmad Zahid Hamidi.

Speaking at a dinner with Malaysian Diaspora in Sri Lanka and Friends of Malaysia here yesterday night, Ahmad Zahid said his two-day visit to the island republic, although short, was important.

He noted that next year would mark the 60th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Malaysia and Sri Lanka.

He said some 13,000 Sri Lankans had visited Malaysia this year.

"I hope more Sri Lankans will visit Malaysia...we have many attractions," he said at the event, also attended by his wife Datin Seri Hamidah Khamis.

Some 200 people attended the event held at a hotel here.

Ahmad Zahid also urged investors from Sri Lanka to explore opportunities in Malaysia.

"Investors from Sri Lanka must also consider investing in Malaysia as we have various incentives," he added.

The deputy prime minister arrived here early yesterday for the working visit aimed at enhancing bilateral ties between the two countries

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