

Najib Congratulates Xi Jinping for being elevated as CPC's "Core Leader"

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From Hafizah Kamarudin

BEIJING, Nov 3 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak on Thursday congratulated Chinese President Xi Jinping for being elevated by the Communist Party of China (CPC) as its "core leader".

Najib, in his remarks at the Malaysian delegation meeting with Xi at Diaoyutai State Guest House here Thursday, said he believed that Xi's leadership would propel China forward and fulfill the "Chinese dream".

In expressing Malaysia's appreciation on the gracious hospitality and the high-level reception given by the Chinese government to the Malaysian delegation, he said his official visit to China had been extremely successful.

"Your vision of a comprehensive strategic partnership, One Belt One Road, and Maritime Silk Road has not only been accepted, but implemented," said Najib.

Meanwhile, Xi also commended Najib's effort in taking Malaysia-China bilateral ties to a new and greater height.

As such, the president said the ties between the two countries should be further strengthened to involve more areas.

Xi, who also asked Najib to convey his warmest regards to Yang di-Pertuan Agong Sultan Abdul Halim Muadzam Shah, said he was very happy to see that the comprehensive strategic cooperation between Malaysia and China had been realised with many of the visions and objectives being achieved.

Speaking to the Malaysian press later, Najib said he had also informed Xi that the plan to develop East Coast Rail Line and High Speed Rail were among the Malaysia's efforts to interpret China's 'One Belt, One Road' initiative, while the construction of Kuantan Jetty and Melaka Getaway, was to interpret the republic's 21st Century Maritime Silk Road policy.

Najib said during his meeting with Xi earlier today, he also invited Xi to make another

official visit to Malaysia next year since his last official visit to Kuala Lumpur was in 2013.

He said the visit would mean a lot, especially with the opening of Xiamen University campus in Malaysia, which is expected in the first quarter of next year.

Najib said Xi had also invited him to attend the Belt Road Conference in May next year as Malaysia had been among the first countries which lauded the initiative, to which he agreed.

The prime minister added they also discussed matters concerning military cooperation in combating terrorism, South China Sea, and the construction of Winter Games 2022 venue by Malaysia's company, Genting Forest Secret.

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