

PRESS RELEASE

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Perak State in Malaysia Dato Seri DiRaja Dr Zambry Bin Abdul Kadir called on the Hon'ble Chief Minister Thiru O. Panneerselvam today (13.3.2015) in the Secretariat, Chennai. The Hon'ble Chief Minister welcomed the visiting Chief Minister to Tamil Nadu on behalf of the Government of Tamil Nadu.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu recalled that India, and in particular, Tamil Nadu and Malaysia have a long history of social, economic and cultural relationship. Although trade and cultural links between India and the Malay Peninsula go back several centuries, migration that took place from India in the 19th and early 20th centuries have strengthened bilateral relations. Today, the Indian community in Malaysia is well established in trade, industry and the professions. The Hon'ble Chief Minister noted that there are nearly 3 lakh persons of Indian origin in Perak State, which is more than 12 per cent of the population.

Hon'ble Chief Minister expressed happiness that the delegation from Perak State had chosen to visit Tamil Nadu to foster collaboration between our two States and also to explore business opportunities. He assured them that they had chosen the right place to visit.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister highlighted some of the similarities between Perak and Tamil Nadu. Perak is an automobile hub and is home to the largest facility to make Proton cars. Tamil Nadu, and in particular the area around Chennai, is India's automobile hub with several leading global brands having plants here.

Hon'ble Chief Minister pointed out that under the able Leadership of his respected Leader Puratchi Thalaivi AMMA, Tamil Nadu has emerged as one of the largest manufacturing hubs in India and today, Tamil Nadu is a leader in production of automobiles and auto components, electronic hardware, engineering, textiles, leather, etc. Abundant availability of skilled manpower coupled with harmonious and peaceful industrial relations make Tamil Nadu a preferred investment destination.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister pointed out that at present, Tamil Nadu is ranked Second largest State economy among Indian states. To catapult the State to Numero Uno position, his respected Leader Puratchi Thalaivi AMMA had unveiled "Vision Tamil Nadu 2023". This grand Vision aims to place Tamil Nadu in the league of Upper Middle Income countries with a per capita income of US dollar 10,000 by 2023. More than 200 large infrastructure projects are being taken up as part of the Vision 2023.

There are huge business opportunities in agro-food processing, chemicals and petrochemicals, automobiles and auto components and infrastructure that can be explored between our two States.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister extended a personal invitation to the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Perak to lead a Business delegation from Perak State to the Global Investors Meet 2015 to be held in Chennai on 23rd and 24th May, 2015.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Perak thanked the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu and the Government of Tamil Nadu for the warm hospitality. He mentioned that it was his third visit to Chennai and that he felt very much at home here. He requested the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu to convey their greetings and regards to Respected Puratchi Thalaivi Amma. The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Perak stated that they were all very aware of

the importance and the magnitude of the electoral victories that Respected Puratchi Thalaivi Amma had secured for the Party.

He highlighted that many of the early migrants from Tamil Nadu to Malaysia went to Perak which was a leading economic powerhouse with the tin mining industry. Now the industrial base is much more diversified and the opportunities for collaboration exist in the area of automobile industry, tourism, green industries and also in films, including both shooting and technical processing.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Perak mentioned that he is holding a round table discussion with many government and industry representatives on 14th March, 2015 which he expected to be a fruitful exercise. He also mentioned that he was aware of the Global Investors Meet proposed in May. He promised that a large business delegation from Perak State would participate in the Global Investors Meet.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Perak mentioned that nearly a 1000 Malaysian students study in Chennai, mostly in medicine and dentistry courses. Malaysia is also looking to collaborate with Universities in Tamil Nadu for improving the quality of Tamil language teaching and of examination standards in Malaysia.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Perak invited the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu to visit Malaysia and in particular Perak.

Hon'ble Dato Seri DiRaja Dr Zambry Bin Abdul Kadir, Chief Minister, Perak State, Malaysia was accompanied by Hon'ble Y.B. Dato Mohammed Zahir Abdul Khalid, Minister for Industry, Investment & Corridor Development, Y.B. Dato Dr. V.G. Kumar Das, Special Officer to Chief Minister, Dato Mohammad Hafni, Special Officer to Chief Minister, Y.B. Dato Azhar

Bin Ahmad, P.A. to Chief Minister of Perak and Mrs. Chitra Devi Ramiah,
Consul General of Malaysia in Chennai.

Thiru K.Gnanadesikan, I.A.S., Chief Secretary to Government,
Tmt Sheela Balakrishnan, I.A.S (Retd.) Adviser to Government,
Thiru K.Ramanujam, I.P.S.,(Retd.) Adviser to Government,
Thiru C.V.Shankar, I.A.S., Additional Chief Secretary to Government,
Industries Department, Thiru K. Shanmugam, I.A.S., Principal Secretary to
Government, Finance Department and Thiru S.Krishnan, I.A.S, Principal
Secretary to Government, Planning, Development & Special Initiatives
Department were present.

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