

**Jan 14, 2005**

## **President to visit Thailand**

PRESIDENT S R Nathan will make a state visit to Thailand from Monday to Jan 21, at the invitation of King Bhumibol Adulyadej.

This will be the first state visit to Thailand by a Singapore Head of State, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs said yesterday.

President Nathan will be accompanied by Mrs Nathan, National Development Minister Mah Bow Tan and his wife; Minister of State (Foreign Affairs) Zainul Abidin Rasheed, Members of Parliament Ong Kian Min and Ho Geok Choo, and senior officials.

In Bangkok, Mr Nathan will be received by King Bhumibol Adulyadej, and hosted to a state banquet by the Thai King and Queen. He will also be honoured with the key to the city of Bangkok.

Thai Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra, Senate President Suchon Chaleekure and Supreme Court President Supachai Poo-Ngam will also make separate calls on Mr Nathan when he is in the Thai capital.

Mr Thaksin will host a reception in honour of President Nathan next Tuesday.

Mr Nathan will also meet Thailand's Privy Councillors and the Singapore community in Bangkok.

While in Chiang Mai, President and Mrs Nathan, who will be accompanied by Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn, will visit several royal projects.

At the end of his state visit, Mr Nathan will make a stopover in Phuket, where he will visit a local Buddhist temple to pay his respects to the victims of the Dec 26 tsunami disaster.