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## Anson and Li hold their first meeting

**CHRIS YEUNG** and  
**MAY SIN-MI HON** in Shanghai

Chief Secretary Anson Chan Fang On-sang will today be received by Chinese premier Li Peng at Zhongnanhai for the first time.

Mrs Chan will be making her first trip to Beijing since her appointment in January as administrative secretary of the Special Administrative Region.

She said yesterday she would discuss a wide range of transitional issues with Mr Li.

Speaking on her return from a trip to Thailand, Mrs Chan said she would also meet Lu Ping, Director of the Hong Kong and Macau Affairs Office.

The Chief Secretary will join her future boss, Chief Executive-designate Tung Chee-hwa, on the visit.

The Governor, Chris Patten, denied that Mrs Chan faced a conflict of loyalties by meeting Chinese leaders in company with the Chief Executive-designate.

Mr Patten said she would have the opportunity, both as the present Chief Secretary and as administrative secretary-designate, "to tell senior Chinese leaders the situation in Hong Kong".

"I am sure that when she returns she will confirm what has been said many times, that Chinese leaders value the role played by the civil service, [and] recognise the importance to a successful transition of maintaining the integrity of the civil service," he said.

Speaking in Shanghai, Mr Tung said it would be good for Mrs Chan to meet state leaders.