Massive love for his Mastiffs

APART from running a successful business, IPC International Group CEO Datuk Seri Steven Leow spends his time with his world's most expensive dogs.

Dr Leow has been an avid dog lover since he was young, He now has 11 Tibetan Mastiffs, six Siberian Samoyeds, and several Shih Tzus living with him in his double-storey mansion in Kuala Lumpur.

"I do a lot of business in China, and these dogs are among some of the most treasured pets in the country," Leow said.

He said his favourite was still his Mastiffs, which were the most sought after breed in China today.



Most expensive: Leow and General, his red Tibetan Mastiff.

The Mastiffs, with their thick mane and majestic stature, is believed to be holy guardian dogs in ancient Tibet and is now known as the "oriental holy dog" in China.

While Leow declined to reveal the amount he spent to import the dogs, his first five Mastiffs, which he named Big Brother (or The Boss), The Second, General, Princess and Ah Wang, were reported to have cost more than RM1mil each.

A red Tibetan Mastiff (the same breed as General) had even commanded a 10 million yuan (RM4.6mil) price tag in China last year.

"I spend RM10,000 to RM20,000 a month to take care of them," said Leow, who even hires two maids just to take care of the dogs.

While Leow keeps his Mastiffs outside the house in special, cordoned off areas, his Samoyeds and Shih Tzus live in air-conditioned rooms.

The Samoyeds' "room" is outside the house while the Shih Tzus stay in a customised room at the top floor of his house.