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KUALA KELANANG, MARCH 23 (BERNAMA) -- DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER SHAFAR BABA TODAY DISMISSED SPECULATIONS THAT PRIME MINISTER DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD WILL RESIGN AFTER THE COMMONWEALTH HEADS OF GOVERNMENT MEETING (CIGDSM) IN OCTOBER.

HE SAID HE HAD NEVER HEARD OF THE RUMOURS.

THE PRIME MINISTER IS EXPECTED TO RETURN NEXT WEEK FROM A THREE-WEEK HOLIDAY ABROAD AND WILL THEN RESUME HIS DUTIES. ENCIK SHAFAR TOLD NEWSMEN AFTER ATTENDING A BRIEFING ON DEVELOPMENT IN JELEBU AT THE DISTRICT OFFICE HERE. HE IS HERE ON A ONE-DAY VISIT.

ENCIK SHAFAR ALSO MET POLITICAL AND COMMUNITY LEADERS.

THIS MORNING, THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER LAUNCHED THE SECOND NINE BEMBARAK (LOYALTY WITH THE PEOPLE) MOVEMENT FOR JELEBU AT THE SUNGAI CHERAI AGRICULTURE TRAINING CENTRE. --BERNAMA
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