

07 MAR 1996

DR MAHATHIR LEAVES FOR VIETNAM

KUALA LUMPUR, March 7 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad left for Vietnam today for a three-day working visit at the invitation of his Vietnamese counterpart Vo Van Kiet.

He was accompanied by Datin Seri Dr Siti Hasmah Mohd Ali, Perlis Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Shahidan Kassim, Culture, Arts and Tourism Minister Datuk Sabbaruddin Chik, Deputy Foreign Minister Datuk Leo Michael Toyad, Deputy Minister of International Trade and Industry Kerk Choo Ting and other officials.

They were seen off at Subang Airport by Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim and Datin Seri Dr Wan Azizah Wan Ismail and other senior officials.

Dr Mahathir last visited Vietnam in 1992.

Dr Mahathir would tour Malaysian companies which had set up business in Vietnam and also launch Malaysia's Proton Wira in that Asean member country. -- Bernama

AFY MOK AAM