

24 SEP 1996

Mahathir-Rally

GRAND WELCOME AWAITS MAHATHIR IN KELANTAN ON OCT 3

KOTA BAHARU, Sept 24 (Bernama) -- A grand welcome awaits Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad when he arrives here on Oct 3 for the Malay Unification Rally.

Thousands of people led by Parti Semangat Melayu 46 President Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah will be on hand to welcome the Prime Minister at the Pengkalan Chepa Airport here.

Kelantan S46 Information Chief Datuk Wan Omar Wan Majid said today Dr Mahathir would then be escorted by 1,450 outriders to Istana Kota Lama where he would be staying during the visit.

He said the Sultan of Kelantan had consented to the use of the old palace.

At the venue of the rally at Sekolah Kebangsaan Padang Garong near here, the beatings of the "rebana ubi" and "kertuk" await Dr Mahathir who will arrive in a procession.

He said 10 teams comprising youth members and bearers of the national and state flags as well as those of S46 and Umno would accompany Dr Mahathir.

Meanwhile, PAS is also expected to hold their own rally at the Stadium Sultan Muhammad IV but the night after.

According to a source closed to the PAS-led state government, the rally would be held from 7pm to midnight.

Thousands of PAS members and supporters were expected to attend the gathering to hear the address by Kelantan Menteri Besar Datuk Haji Nik Abdul Aziz Nik Mat, the source said.

PAS President Haji Fadzil Noor and his deputy Haji Abdul Hadi Awang will be present. -- BERNAMA

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