

30 MAY 1996

MAHATHIR AND BANHARN HOLD TALKS

KUALA LUMPUR, May 30 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad and his Thai counterpart Banharn Sipla-Archa held talks at the Prime Minister's Department today.

Their meeting was followed by another between the Thai and Malaysian delegations.

The two prime ministers later witnessed the signing of two memoranda of understanding on the sale and purchase of natural gas from the Malaysia-Thailand Joint Development Area between the Malaysia-Thailand Joint Authority (MTJA), its production sharing contractors and the buyers of the gas.

The Thai premier arrived yesterday for a two-day official visit to strengthen bilateral ties and promote economic cooperation.

Banharn was accompanied by his wife Jamsai and a 60-member delegation that includes Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Amnuay Virawan, Labour and Social Welfare Minister Prasong Boonpong, senior government officials and businessmen.

He is scheduled to leave for Singapore later in the afternoon. --
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