

15 MAR 1996

MAHATHIR ARRIVES IN KUCHING FOR VISIT TO SARAWAK

KUCHING, March 15 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohammad arrived here today for a two-day visit to Sarawak.

Accompanied by his wife Datin Seri Dr Siti Hasmah Mohamed Ali, he was greeted on arrival by Chief Minister Tan Sri Taib Mahmud, deputy Chief Minister Tan Sri Amar Alfred Jabu and members of the state cabinet.

Also present was Minister of Energy, Telecommunications and Post Datuk Leo Moggie.

About 1,000 supporters of Barisan Nasional component parties here, carrying banners and party flags gathered to welcome Dr Mahathir.

They were from Parti Pesaka Bumiputra Bersatu (PBB), Sarawak United People's Party (Supp), Sarawak National Party (Snap) and Parti Bansa Dayak Sarawak (PBDS).

Dr Mahathir was given a traditional reception at which Bidayuh, Melanau, Malay, Indian and other ethnic dances were performed.

He is scheduled to open the Judges' Conference and South Kuching Municipal Council's new RM55-million building before leaving for Bintulu and Bakun. -- BERNAMA

RDY LDB