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MAHATHIR ENDS FOUR-DAY WORKING VISIT TO CHINA

By: Zainoor Sulaiman

BEIJING, Aug 27 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad flew home today after ending his four-day working visit to China aimed at enhancing Sino-Malaysian economic cooperation.

He was seen off at the Beijing Capital International Airport by Vice Minister for State Planning Commission Zeng Peiyan, who is also the chairman of the reception committee, Malaysian ambassador here Amir Jaafar and senior officials of the Chinese Foreign Ministry and Malaysian embassy.

Dr Mahathir held talks with his Chinese counterpart Li Peng at the Great Hall of the People and called on Chinese President Jiang Zemin.

The highlight of his visit was his keynote address at the "Malaysia-China Partnership: The Beijing Dialogue" organised by the Asian Strategy and Leadership Institute (Asli) of Malaysia.

Other Malaysian speakers at the dialogue included Primary Industries Minister Datuk Seri Dr Lim Keng Yaik, Pulau Pinang Chief Minister Tan Sri Dr Koh Tsu Koon and Deputy Minister of Education Datuk Dr Fong Chan Onn.

While in Beijing, Dr Mahathir witnessed the signing of 15 agreements and memoranda of understanding between Malaysian businessmen and their Chinese partners to undertake joint-venture projects ranging from power plants, manufacturing of vehicles, motorcar engines and spareparts to steel mill and the construction of toll highways. -- BERNAMA

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