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MAHATHIR LEAVES FOR OFFICIAL VISIT TO INDIA (With pix)

KUALA LUMPUR, Dec 19 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad left for New Delhi today for a four-day official visit to India.

He is accompanied by his wife Datin Seri Dr Siti Hasmah Mohd Ali.

His delegation includes Transport Minister Datuk Seri Dr Ling Liong Sik, Works Minister Datuk Seri S. Samy Vellu, Minister of Science, Technology and Environment Datuk Law Heing Ding and several businessmen.

The Prime Minister was seen off at the Sultan Abdul Aziz Shah International Airport in Subang by Information Minister Datuk Mohamed Rahmat, Deputy Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Datuk Ibrahim Saad and Indian Deputy High Commissioner Deepak Vohra.

While in India, Dr Mahathir will receive the Jawaharlal Nehru Award for International Understanding and hold bilateral talks with Indian leaders.

The India visit will be the Prime Minister's last foreign trip this year during which he went to about 20 countries.

Among them are Saudi Arabia, Australia, the Netherlands, Bosnia-Herzegovina, China, Croatia, the Philippines, Ghana, Guinea, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Macedonia, New Zealand, Trinidad and Tobago, Portugal and Vietnam. -- BERNAMA

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