

29 NOV 1996

PM LEAVES FOR JAKARTA

KUALA LUMPUR, Nov 29 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad left for Jakarta today to attend the Asean Informal Summit beginning tomorrow.

Among those at the Sultan Abdul Aziz Shah airport to see him off were Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Datuk Abang Abu Bakar Mustapa, his deputy, Raja Ariffin Raja Sulaiman, and Deputy Home Ministers Datuk Megat Junid Megat Ayob and Ong Ka Teng.

At the summit, Asean leaders would discuss the membership of Laos, Cambodia and Myanmar in the grouping next year.

It will also discuss ways to accelerate the formation of the Asean Free Trade Area (Afta), a new linkage with Europe through the Asia-Europe meeting forum, possible informal ties with the North American Free Trade Area (Nafta) and closer economic relations with New Zealand and Australia.

-- BERNAMA

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