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Dr M conferred Brunei's highest State award

KUALA LUMPUR, Mon - Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad was today conferred Brunei's highest State award of The Most Esteemed Family Order First Class by the Sultan of Brunei Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah.

A statement by Brunei said the award was in appreciation of Dr Mahathir's efforts to strengthen close relations between Malaysia and Brunei.

Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah conferred the award during a brief ceremony when he granted Dr Mahathir, accompanied by Datin Seri Dr Siti Hasmah Mohd Ali, an audience at the Shangri-La Hotel.

Also present were Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Saleha and Pengiran Isteri Mariam.

The award is normally bestowed on members of royalty.

Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah began a four-day State visit today at the invitation of the Yang di-Pertuan Agong Tuanku Ja'afar who visited Brunei last year.

Members of the entourage include Cabinet Ministers, senior officials and a business delegation.

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