

17 FEB 1997

MAHATHIR IN SABAH FOR TWO-DAY VISIT

KOTA KINABALU, Feb 17 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad arrived here at 5.10pm today for a two-day visit.

He was received by Chief Minister Datuk Yong Teck Lee, Land and Cooperative Development Minister Datuk Osu Sukam, Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Datuk Chong Kah Kiat, state Cabinet ministers and senior government officials.

The Prime Minister was later presented with a horse named 'Farahz' by the Sabah Polo Club at the hotel where he is staying during the visit.

Dr Mahathir is scheduled to pay a courtesy call on Yang Dipertua Negeri Tun Sakaran Dandai at Istana Negeri before attending a joint celebration of Chinese New Year and Hari Raya Aidilfitri at the Sabah Trade Centre tonight.

About 7,000 people are expected at the gathering.

Tomorrow, Dr Mahathir will meet committee members of the state Umno and leaders of the non-Muslim communities.

He will launch the Tour de Langkawi 1997, Asia's premier cycling race, before returning to Kuala Lumpur in the afternoon. -- BERNAMA

KG CTL