

14 AUG 1997

Mahathir-Steps

MAHATHIR INSPECTS CANARY STAIRCASE PROJECT UP GUNUNG JERAI

YAN, Aug 14 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, who is on a one-day working visit to Kedah today, inspected the project to build concrete steps up the 1,200m Gunung Jerai, here.

The project, known as "Tangga Kenari-Seribu Tahun," (Canary Steps-1,000 Years), in Titi Hayun involves the construction of a flight of about 10,000 steps snaking its way 4.7km up to the peak of the mountain from the foot.

During the visit, Dr Mahathir, accompanied by Menteri Besar Tan Sri Sanusi Junid, joined the residents and workers in transporting the construction materials for the project.

He also climbed the 400-odd steps that have already been built without any trace of tiring.

The project, funded by the private sector, started in May and is expected to be completed in three years.

When ready, it is proposed for entry in the world record as a staircase with the biggest number of steps.

Earlier, Dr Mahathir visited the new State Museum in Alor Setar which is nearing completion.

The RM8.3 million building on a 1.2ha site next to the existing museum is 90 per cent completed and is expected to be operational early next year.

Dr Mahathir later visited the Rumah Rakan Kedah in Jalan Sultan which will serve as a centre for media activities and the latest information technology in the town to promote capital investment opportunities in Kedah.

He also toured an exhibition on development in Kedah. -- BERNAMA
MZM MN JK