

23 NOV 1997

MAHATHIR LEAVES FOR APEC SUMMIT

KUALA LUMPUR, 23 NOV (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad

left here today for Vancouver to attend the fifth annual summit of the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum tomorrow

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

Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim and several cabinet ministers were at the Sultan Abdul Aziz Shah Airport in Subang near here to see him off.

In Vancouver, later today, Dr Mahathir is scheduled to deliver a keynote address entitled "Government and Business Working Together for Economic Development" at the APEC CEO summit.

Tomorrow, he will attend the APEC summit and dialogue with APEC business advisory council (ABAC) while on Tuesday he will join the leaders' retreat to the Museum of Anthropology at the University of British Columbia.

APEC groups 18 countries -- Australia, Brunei, Canada, China, Chile, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Japan, South Korea, Mexico, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Malaysia, New Zealand, Singapore, Taiwan, Thailand and the United States.

Dr Mahathir leaves Vancouver on Wednesday for a two-day visit to Japan where among other things he will meet Japanese investors.--BERNAMA

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