

13 APR 1997

Mahathir - GP

MAHATHIR OFFICIATES MALBORO MALAYSIAN GP '97

SHAH ALAM, April 13 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad today officiated the Malboro Malaysian Grand Prix '97 at the Shah Alam Circuit here.

He pressed the button in the official box to mark the opening of the first leg of the world championship.

Earlier, Dr Mahathir was escorted to the official box to the tune of the Royal Malaysia Police bag-pipe band.

He was accompanied by Malaysia Airports Berhad (MAB) chairman Tan Sri Basir Ismail, MAB managing director Datuk Khairuddin Ibrahim and Automobile Association of Malaysia chairman Tunku Muzaffar Tunku Mustapha.

After pressing the button, the MAB band, pom-pom dancers, Royal Malaysia Police band and chingay performances were put up.

Later the Prime Minister proceeded to the Perdana suite to watch the 125cc category race.

Also present were Transport Minister Datuk Seri Dr Ling Liong Sik, Youth and Sports Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin and the out-going Selangor Menteri Besar Tan Sri Muhammad Taib.

The MAB and AAM are joint-promoters of the event. -- BERNAMA

JM AZZ ABG