

15 MAY 1997

PM-Golf

PM INSPECTS CLEARWATER SANCTUARY GOLF RESORT

BATU GAJAH, May 15 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad and Datin Seri Dr Siti Hasmah Mohamed Ali today spent about an hour touring the Clearwater Sanctuary Golf Resort, which is also known as a bird sanctuary.

Dr Mahathir was conducted around the resort and the golf course by one of its proprietors, former state legislative assembly speaker Tan Sri Haji Ahmad Azizuddin Zainal Abidin.

The golf resort on 300-hectares of former mining land has many old raintrees and has become home for a variety of birds including quails, moorhens, storks, hawks and wildfowl.

The 140 hectares of lakes in the resort also support kingfishers, wild ducks, herons and myriad of fishes including the carp, peacock bass and goby.

Due to its scenic beauty and natural surroundings the golf resort has become an affiliate of the American Audubon International Programme, which is an international programme designed to help landowners preserve and enhance the environmental quality of their property.

Eighteen holes covering 6,579 square metres had been completed and the first nine holes are known as the "Raintree Nine," which encompasses the raintree area.

While the another nine holes named "Lakes Nine" were opened for use in April last year and features water around every hole thus enhancing the natural beauty of the course.

It also has an aquatic driving range where golfers can hit special floating balls into the North Lake with floating distance makers being placed in the water and the balls being located by boat.

It has 24-bays for practice, a private teaching lounge as well as video print-outs and clinics to cater for all abilities.

The resort which was opened for membership in May 1995, is expected to be fully completed by the end of this year. Other facilities include a tennis academy, tropical lagoon, fishing and boating clubs, health clubs, children's fun playground and recreational areas catering for jogging and picnics. The construction of private chalets will begin early next year. -- BERNAMA.

RZS AAM