

19 FEB 1998

Mahathir-arrival

DR MAHATHIR ARRIVES FROM BRUNEI FOR TWO-DAY VISIT TO SABAH

KOTA KINABALU, Feb 19 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, accompanied by his wife Datin Seri Dr Siti Hasmah Mohd Ali, arrived here from Brunei today for a two-day working visit to Sabah.

Chief minister Datuk Yong Teck Lee and state Umno liaison chief cum federal Land and Cooperative Development Minister Datuk Osu Sukam were among the dignitaries who received him at the airport here.

Earlier, in BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, the prime minister was seen off by Brunei Industry and Primary Resources Minister Pehin Abdul Rahman Mohamad Taib and the Malaysian high commissioner Wan Yusof Wan Embong.

Last night, Dr Mahathir, who was on a one-day visit to the sultanate, held talks with Brunei's Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah at the Royal Brunei Golf and Country Club in Jerudong near Bandar Bandar Seri Begawan.

The four-eyed meeting, which centred on the economic crisis affecting the region was part of the series the Prime Minister has had with Asean heads of government.

Dr Mahathir's itinerary here today started with the launching of a state think-tank body, Indep or the Institute for Indigenous Economic Progress.

He is later scheduled to visit the site of the Nexus Golf Resort in Karambunai near here and officiate at a ground-breaking for the Nusantara Steel Mill Sdn Bhd plant in Kudat.

Tonight, he is scheduled to join in community leaders at a combined Chinese New Year and Hari Raya Puasa reception in Likas near here.

The prime minister's main itinerary for tomorrow is opening the second convention of the state Barisan Nasional before joining the Yang Dipertua Negeri Tun Sakaran Dandai for Friday prayers at the state mosque here. --

BERNAMA

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