

22 APR 1998

Mahathir-Arrives

DR MAHATHIR ARRIVES FOR A ONE-DAY WORKING VISIT TO THAILAND

HAADYAI, April 22 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad arrived here today for a one-day working visit to Thailand.

He was received upon arrival by his Thai counterpart Chuan Leekpai at the Haadyai International Airport, here, at 2.30pm (3.30pm Malaysian time)

Dr Mahathir was accompanied by his wife, Datin Seri Dr Siti Hasmah Mohamed Ali, Foreign Minister Datuk Abdullah Ahmad Badawi and several senior government officials.

Both prime ministers then proceeded to the General Prem Tinsulanonda Park in Songkhla, 35km from here, where they will witness the signing of an agreement between Petronas, the national oil company, Thailand Petroleum Authority and the Malaysia-Thailand Joint Development Authority.

The agreement is on the sale of gas from the Malaysia-Thailand Joint Development Area.

This will be followed by a bilateral delegation meeting at the JB hotel, here, where Chuan will later host a dinner in Dr Mahathir's honour.

Dr Mahathir is scheduled to depart for Kuala Lumpur at 10pm (11pm Malaysian time)

This is the second time Dr Mahathir is visiting Thailand this year after a two-day working visit to Bangkok on Feb 5 and 6.

The last time the two leaders met was during the Second Asia-Europe Meeting (Asem) in London on April 3 and 4. -- BERNAMA

JM JK