

29/10/1998

PM on two-day working visit to Brunei

Ashraf Abdullah in Bandar Seri Begawan

DATUK Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad will arrive here today on a two-day working visit for discussions with Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah on the economic problems in the region and possible solutions.

The Prime Minister, accompanied by his wife, Datin Seri Dr Siti Hasmah Mohamed Ali and Foreign Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi, will also discuss with Sultan Hassanal the possibility of increasing two-way trade and investment.

The Prime Minister's itinerary includes a meeting with the Malaysian community in Brunei today at the residence of High Commissioner Wan Yusof Embong at Rumah Malaysia where Dr Mahathir will receive a RM42,000 contribution to the National Special Fund.

He will later have an audience with the Sultan at Istana Nurul Iman.

The Sultan, who is also Brunei's Prime Minister, will host a banquet for Dr Mahathir and his delegation tonight.

This is Dr Mahathir's second visit to Brunei this year. He was in Bandar Seri Begawan on Feb 18 for an overnight trip when he discussed the economic crisis with Sultan Hassanal.

The Prime Minister and Sultan Hassanal met again in Kuala Lumpur on Feb 28 when the Sultan made an overnight working visit.

They discussed, among other things, a common currency for intra-Asean trade to reduce their dependency on foreign currencies.

Tomorrow, Dr Mahathir will have a breakfast meeting with Sultan Hassanal before leaving for Kuala Lumpur.

Dr Siti Hasmah, meanwhile, will visit the RIPAS Hospital and Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah Foundation Complex today.

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