

08 SEP 1999

Mahathir-Sabah

BUSY SCHEDULE FOR DR MAHATHIR IN SABAH

KOTA KINABALU, Sept 8 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad will have a tight schedule during his two-day working visit to Sabah from Sept 17.

Chief Minister Datuk Osu Sukam said apart from attending functions in the state capital, the Prime Minister was also scheduled to be in Lahad Datu in the east coast and Kundasang, Ranau, about 80km from here.

Dr Mahathir is expected to arrive in Tawau from Labuan on the morning of Sept 17 before proceeding straight to Lahad Datu by helicopter to open an estate under the Very Poor People's Development Programme (PPRT) in Bagahak, about 70km from that town.

"From there he will return to Tawau for Friday prayers before attending a lunch function with local leaders in Tawau," he told reporters after chairing the weekly state Cabinet meeting here today.

In the afternoon, Dr Mahathir will leave for Kota Kinabalu to meet the Sabah Umno Liaison Committee before joining community leaders for dinner.

The following day, he will officially open the 15th World Mountain Running Trophy championship at Taman Kinabalu in Kundasang, which is being organised in Malaysia for the first time.

The competition, to be flagged off on Sept 19, has attracted some of the world's leading mountain runners, including defending champion Jonathan Wyatt of New Zealand. Malaysia's challenge will be led by national runners M. Ramachandran and Yuan Yu Fang.

After Kundasang, the Prime Minister will go to Tuaran, about 40km from here, to attend a luncheon with leaders of Sabah Barisan Nasional (BN) component parties.

He would then address the BN Youth Convention, also in Tuaran, before returning to Kuala Lumpur, Osu said.

Meanwhile, the Prime Minister will meet the people and leaders of Labuan, and open the UMS Labuan branch campus on Sept 16.

-- BERNAMA

JS YBY