

31 MAR 1999

DR MAHATHIR RETURNS TO FULFIL A PROMISE

KOTA KINABALU, March 31 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir will be accorded a traditional welcome on arrival here for a three-day visit to the state from April 10.

On the first day, he will visit Ranau, some 90km from here to meet the residents in the mountainous district, said Chief Minister Datuk Osu Sukam today.

The visit is seen as keeping to the promise Dr Mahathir made to the people of Ranau when he had to abort a visit to the district on March 11 during a state election campaign when his helicopter could not land due to adverse weather condition.

However, Dr Mahathir later managed to address them in a live radio broadcast from Kota Kinabalu.

Osu said that after the Ranau visit, the prime minister would meet the state cabinet before joining the people in a thanksgiving function at the Likas Stadium here in the evening.

On April 11, Dr Mahathir will attend private functions. He will leave for Kuala Lumpur the next day.

--BERNAMA

JS ABG