

11 OCT 1999

DR MAHATHIR HOLDS TALKS WITH PRESIDENT CONTE

PUTRAJAYA, Oct 11 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad today held talks with visiting President Lansana Conte of Guinea at the Prime Minister's Department, here.

The two leaders later attended a delegation meeting of both sides.

Conte arrived here yesterday for a five-day state visit at the invitation of the Yang di-Pertuan Agong Sultan Salahuddin Abdul Aziz Shah.

Earlier today, Conte, who is leading a 33-member delegation, was accorded a ceremonial welcome at Parliament Square, here.

Tonight, Conte is scheduled to attend a state banquet at Istana Negara.

During his visit here, the Guinean president will also visit the headquarters of the Malaysian Industrial Development Authority and Pilgrims Fund Board (Tabung Haji), the Petronas Twin Towers, the Multimedia University in Cyberjaya as well as the Telekom Malaysia Bhd and PadiBeras National Bhd headquarters.

Guinea, a French-speaking West African nation of more than seven million people, has commercial deposits of bauxite, iron ore and diamonds besides fertile land ideal for rice, sugar cane and tropical fruits.

-- BERNAMA

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