

05 NOV 1999

MAHATHIR OPENS WORLD HAKKA CONVENTION

PETALING JAYA, Nov 5 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad today opened the 15th World Hakka Convention at the Sunway Lagoon Resort Hotel here.

About 1,200 delegates are participating in the four-day programme.

In the souvenir programme, Dr Mahathir said over the years Malaysia's Hakka community of about 1.5 million has grown into a cohesive force displaying not only vibrancy and entrepreneurship but also making its mark in the different professions.

"Ever since the days of Yap Ah Loy, that great Hakka leader who pioneered the nation's tin industry, the community has had several outstanding citizens both in the public and private sectors. And in politics as well," Dr Mahathir said.

-- BERNAMA

HS RYN