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35,000 to meet PM in Penang

BUTTERWORTH, Wed. - A big crowd of 35,000 people is expected to attend two meet-the-people sessions with Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad tomorrow.

Dr Mahathir, who will be accompanied by his wife Datuk Seri Dr Siti Hasmah Mohd Ali, will be here on a two-day working visit.

Chief Minister Tan Sri Dr Koh Tsu Koon said Dr Mahathir and his entourage would arrive at the Royal Malaysian Air Force base here about 8.45am.

The first gathering is at Sekolah Menengah Kebangsaan Guar Perahu in the Permatang Pauh parliamentary constituency at 5pm.

Prior to the gathering, Dr Mahathir will chair a closed-door meeting with State Umno liaison committee members and its Youth and Wanita leaders at the Penang Golf Resort in Bertam at 9.30am.

Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi, who is also State Umno liaison committee chairman, will be present.

At the same time, Dr Siti Hasmah's programme will take her to a flower preservation centre in Bumbung Lima, near Kepala Batas.

She will be briefed on the activities of numerous women's groups in the Seberang Perai Utara district.

Later, the Prime Minister will attend a luncheon with State Umno members as well as leaders of the various State Barisan Nasional component parties.

At 3.15pm, Dr Mahathir will visit the integrated vegetable farm in Kampung Lembah Raja in Seberang Perai Utara.

He will speak at the second gathering at the Penang Indoor Sports Arena in Bayan Baru at 9pm.

On Friday, Dr Mahathir will open Intel Technology's new building.

The Prime Minister and his entourage are expected to leave for Kuala Lumpur at 11am.

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