

07/09/1999

Rousing welcome for PM and wife in Kuantan

KUANTAN, Mon. - As in other states, a large crowd turned up at the Royal Malaysian Air Force base here to give Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad a rousing welcome when he arrived today for an overnight visit to Pahang.

Accompanied by his wife Datuk Seri Dr Siti Hasmah Mohamed Ali, Dr Mahathir was met on arrival by Menteri Besar Datuk Adnan Yaakob, Information Minister Tan Sri Mohd Khalil Yaakob, Education Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak and Human Resources Minister Datuk Lim Ah Lek.

Also present were Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Datuk Siti Zaharah Sulaiman, Deputy Minister at the Prime Minister's Department Datuk Fauzi Abdul Rahman, State dignitaries and Barisan Nasional component party members.

A large crowd was at hand to greet the Prime Minister at the base with more lined up outside the terminal to welcome him. He arrived at about 2.40pm. The crowd was seen rushing to shake the hands of the Prime Minister while chanting "Hidup Mahathir".

The Prime Minister, as Umno president, later attended a closed-door meeting with the party's State liaison committee members at the Hyatt Regency hotel in Teluk Chempedak.

Later, in his capacity as the Barisan Nasional chairman, he briefed leaders of the component parties on the country's political development at the convention hall in Jalan Teluk Sisek.

Dr Mahathir and Dr Siti Hasmah then joined the BN representatives and their spouses at a dinner, also at the hotel.

The highlight of his visit will be to tour Bandar Pusat Jengka, about 130km from here, at 9.30am tomorrow, where he is scheduled to address at least 30,000 people, comprising Felde settlers and civil servants, at the Nadi Kota mini stadium.

The Prime Minister, who is on a whirlwind tour of the nation, has made similar visits to almost all the states, including Sabah and Sarawak, in the last three months.

During these visits, he reminded Malaysians to help preserve unity and to support the Government in its efforts to improve the economy, develop the country and bring it to greater heights.

(END)