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Meeting amid tight security

IPOH, Mon. - Perak became the first State to hold the Umno supreme council meeting today.

The three-hour meeting held for the first time outside Kuala Lumpur was conducted under tight security.

Since early today, police and military officers had been stationed at strategic points in the city.

At the Menteri Besar's residence where the meeting was held, several armoured vehicles were seen parked near the entrance.

The General Operations Force had also been roped in to patrol the vicinity.

Entry into the Menteri Besar's residence was also tight with police officers checking the identities of those wanting to enter.

Initially, the meeting was scheduled to be held at the State Secretariat building but was changed last night for security reasons.

Upon arrival, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad and his wife Datuk Seri Dr Siti Hasmah Mohd Ali were greeted by Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Tajol Rosli Ghazali and his wife Datin Seri Kamariah Mokri.

Later, Tajol Rosli hosted a dinner reception in honour of Dr Mahathir, who also had a pleasant surprise when a birthday cake was wheeled in for him.

Tajol Rosli said the cake was for the Prime Minister's birthday on July 10 and Dr Siti Hasmah's on July 12.

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