

16 SEP 2001

DPM ARRIVES FOR TWO-DAY VISIT TO SIBU

SIBU, Sept 16 (Bernama) -- Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi arrived here this morning for a two-day official visit.

Among those welcoming him at the airport were Chief Minister Tan Sri Abdul Taib Mahmud, State Infrastructure Development and Communications Minister Datuk Wong Soon Koh, State Assistant Public Health Minister Dr Soon Choon Teck and local dignitaries.

Abdullah later spent about five minutes chatting with students from the Sekolah Menengah Kebangsaan Kampung Nangka who have requested him to bring their gift of a 181 metre-long National Day greeting card to Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

He gladly obliged and promised to bring the card prepared by 1,600 students to the prime minister on his return tomorrow.

Abdullah is also scheduled to open the Sekolah Kebangsaan Upper Lanang before launching the NTV7 transmission to the state's central region (Sibu and Sarikei divisions) at a hotel here in the afternoon.

Tonight, he will be among the guests attending the closing of the 44th National Day celebration at the town square.

-- BERNAMA

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