

07 JUL 2001

DR MAHATHIR GIVEN A ROUSING WELCOME IN LANGKAWI

LANGKAWI, July 7 (Bernama) -- Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad arrived here tonight to a rousing welcome from about 1,000 people including students from a private college.

Banners were strung to welcome him and thousands lined up from the arrival hall to the exit of the airport here to greet the prime minister who is on a one-day visit here.

As soon as he stepped into his car, they chanted "Malays Don't Forget" in apparent response to his recent statement that the Malays forget easily.

Earlier, Dr Mahathir and his wife, Datin Seri Dr Siti Hasmah Mohamed Ali, were received by Kedah Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Syed Razak Syed Zain and local leaders.

Tomorrow he will inspect development projects on the resort island.

He is scheduled to visit the Oriental Village integrated shopping complex, the RM29.6 million Pantai Kok reclamation project in Teluk Burau, the mangrove forest in Kilim and the bat cave in the area before returning to Kuala Lumpur in the afternoon.

-- BERNAMA

NH NAK JK