

05 FEB 2001

Mahathir-Visit

DR MAHATHIR TO VISIT SABAH FOR TWO DAYS FROM SUNDAY

KOTA KINABALU, Feb 5 (Bernama) -- Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad will make a two-day visit to Sabah starting Sunday.

Chief Minister Datuk Osu Sukam said today the prime minister was scheduled to meet with the state Umno, including the Youth and Wanita wings, immediately upon arrival here on Sunday afternoon.

Dr Mahathir, who is also Umno president, would also meet with several party branches in the Sabah west coast, Osu told a news conference after chairing the state Umno meeting, here.

He would open the Asean Education Ministers Meeting here the following day before heading for the federal capital.

This is the prime minister's first visit to Sabah this year.

He stopped over for about an hour on Jan 21 while on his way home after a four-day visit to Osaka, Japan.

Osu said today's meeting discussed, among others, preparations for the Umno branch meetings to be held for a month from March 1 and the divisional meetings which would take another month from April 1.

He advised the party members to avoid contests to safeguard party unity.

"This is only an advice and if there is any contest it must be done in the family spirit...the vanquished should accept the decision, the victor should give the vanquished a chance to contribute his service," he said.

-- BERNAMA

NT JK