

17 JUL 2001

MAHATHIR-BULLION

DR MAHATHIR LAUNCHES MALAYSIA'S GOLD BULLION COIN

KUALA LUMPUR, July 17 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir today launches the country's gold bullion coin, the Kijang Emas, issued by Bank Negara Malaysia.

Bank Negara governor, Tan Sri Dr Aziz Akhtar Aziz said the Kijang Emas was at par with the gold bullions issued by other countries like the Canadian Maple Leaf, American Gold Eagle, Australian Nugget and British Britannia.

Malaysia is the 12th country in this world to issue its own gold bullion.

The Kijang Emas is minted by the Royal Mint of Malaysia and will be distributed by Malayan Banking Bhd and Bumiputra Commerce Bank Bhd at selected branches nationwide, starting tomorrow.

Zeti said the gold bullion coin was different from other commemorative coins issued by the central bank as it could be purchased and resold at prevailing international gold market price.

The gold prices would be quoted on Bank Negara's website, [www.bnm.gov.my](http://www.bnm.gov.my).

The Kijang Emas is issued in three sizes, one ounce, half-ounce and a quarter ounce with gold purity of 999.9.

"The face value of Kijang Emas which is RM200 for one ounce, RM100 for half-ounce and RM50 for a quarter-ounce is the government guarantee on the minimum value of the gold bullion coin," she added. -- BERNAMA

MOT KTC