

19/10/2001

Dr Mahathir arriving at midnight today

Rupa Damodaran

PRIME Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad is scheduled to arrive here about midnight today for the Asia-Pacific Economic Co-operation (Apec) leaders' summit.

He will be accompanied by International Trade and Industry Minister Datuk Seri Rafidah Aziz and Foreign Minister Datuk Seri Syed Hamid Albar, who flew back to Kuala Lumpur after attending the two-day Apec Ministerial meeting.

Tomorrow, Dr Mahathir will have a meeting with US President George W. Bush before paying a courtesy call on Chinese President Jiang Zemin.

He will deliver his keynote address on Globalisation with Common Development at the Apec CEO Summit in the afternoon.

After attending the leaders' agenda briefing, he will attend the leaders' dialogue with the Apec Business Advisory Council (Abac).

The Prime Minister's wife Datuk Seri Dr Siti Hasmah, who will accompany him, will also attend the Apec leaders' dinner and cultural performance that night.

On Sunday, Dr Mahathir will join other leaders in signing the official scroll for Apec 20001 before heading for the leaders' retreat.

Apec leaders will make their declaration later. Dr Mahathir will visit Qingdao, one of China's major trading ports north of Shanghai for a one-day visit.

There, he is scheduled to visit the Haier Group, one of the world's biggest household appliances manufacturers.

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