

25 MAR 2001

PM ASKS MEDIA TO PROMOTE INTERESTING LOCAL LOCATIONS

KOTA KINABALU, March 25 (Bernama) -- The Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said some potential tourist destinations in the country need aggressive publicity and for this the media can be of help.

For instance, he said the Sabah Agricultural Park which he opened in Tenom earlier today did not get enough media attention and this explained the limited public knowledge about the park.

" It is one of the most fantastic gardens I have seen in the world but I am disappointed that Malaysians themselves ignore it," he told reporters at the end of a two-day visit to Sabah today.

Dr Mahathir said wide publicity about places like the park would attract more tourists to Sabah and in turn help develop the national tourism industry.

" Do a service sometimes, I know the formula 2-1-1 (of the rotating chief ministership) is an important thing to the press but not to the people of Sabah," said Dr Mahathir.

The 200-ha park, located in Lagud Seberang 15 km from Tenom, was opened to visitors last October.

It designates 56ha for a recreational lake, a plant museum, and an animal sanctuary, among others, and the remaining 144 ha for agricultural exposition, experimental nurseries and forestry projects.

-- BERNAMA

JS MAI RYN