

03 FEB 2001

Mahathir-Wedding

PM, DR SITI HASMAH GRACE MAMPU OFFICER'S WEDDING

PUTRAJAYA, Feb 3 (Bernama) -- The Prime Minister and Datin Seri Dr Siti Hasmah Mohd Ali today graced the marriage of Mampu officer V.Valluvan, 31, to college lecturer S.Thilagarani, 30, at the Dewan Serbaguna, Precint 8, here.

Valluvan is an Assistant Director with the Policy and Corporate Division of the Malaysian Administrative. Modernisation and Management Planning Unit (Mampu) of the Prime Minister's Department.

Valluvan and his bride were overjoyed with the presenc of Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad and Dr Siti Hasmah.

"We are so happy and honoured...we are at a loss for words...the Prime Minister is a very busy man but he still found time to attend our wedding," Valluvan said.

Valluvan and Thilagarani are tying the knot/thalee after a three-year courtship.

Earlier on arrival Dr Mahathir and Dr Siti Hasmah were warmly received by the bride and bridegroom and their families.

The Prime Minister presided at the traditional Indian "Collam" ceremony for the bride and the bridegroom at the entrance to Dewan Serbaguna which is being used for the first time for a wedding.

Among the 500 guests from the various communities was former Chief Secretary to the Government Tan Sri Abdul Halim Ali.

Valluvan and his bride said they were also proud for being the first couple to be married in Putrajaya since its declaration as Federal Territory two days ago.

Valluvan and his wife who are from Kedah, the homestate of the Prime Minister, will spend their honeymoon in Langkawi, the famed international tourist resort.

-- BERNAMA

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