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Raya-Open House

THAI PM EXPECTED TO ATTEND NATIONAL-LEVEL AIDILFITRI OPEN HOUSE

ALOR STAR, Dec 2 (Bernama) -- Thailand's Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra, several ministers and provincial governors from the neighbouring country are expected to attend the national-level Aidilfitri Open House on Dec 21.

Culture, Arts and Tourism Minister Datuk Paduka Abdul Kadir Sheikh Fadzir said some 10,000 Thais apart from 200,000 people from Kedah, Perlis, Penang and Perak were expected at the open house, to be held in Bandar Darulaman Theme Park, Jitra.

Yang di-Pertuan Agong Tuanku Syed Sirajuddin Syed Putra Jamalullail and Raja Permaisuri Agong Tuanku Fauziah Tengku Abdul Rashid as well as the Sultan and Sultanah of Kedah are scheduled to grace the event.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, his deputy Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi and other national leaders would also be present.

"I hope all Malaysians will come to the open house as it is not only for the Malays but for all Malaysians from all walks of life," he said after attending the meeting on the event chaired by Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Syed Razak Syed Zain here yesterday.

He said buses would be provided at the border checkpoints in Bukit Kayu Hitam and Padang Besar to ferry the Thais to Jitra.

Both checkpoints would be opened round-the-clock on Dec 21 instead of 6am until midnight on other days.

Abdul Kadir said Malaysian and Thai artistes and cultural troupes would be providing the entertainment at the open house.

He said the Malaysian Cabinet, led by Dr Mahathir, would be meeting their Thai counterparts in Haadyai, Thailand on Dec 22.

-- BERNAMA

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