

11 JAN 2003

Mahathir-visit

DR MAHATHIR ON TWO-DAY WORKING VISIT TO KELANTAN FROM WEDNESDAY

KOTA BAHARU, Jan 11 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad will make a two-day working visit to Kelantan from Wednesday.

Kelantan Federal Development Department Director Datuk Ramli Abdul Rahman, in disclosing this today, said Dr Mahathir, accompanied by Datin Seri Dr Siti Hasmah Mohd Ali would arrive at the Sultan Ismail Petra Airport, Pengkalan Chepa at 4.15pm.

"Soon on arrival, Dr Mahathir and his wife will hold a meet-the-people session to be attended by over 50,000 people at the grounds of Kolej Sultan Ismail, here," he said at a news conference.

Ramli, who is also chairman of the visit main committee, said Dr Mahathir would deliver an important message for the people of Kelantan as well as explanation on several current issues during the gathering.

After that, Dr Mahathir would meet federal government officers at the Renaissance Hotel here at 8.40pm, he said.

Dr Mahathir will be staying at Istana Kota Lama here during the visit.

The next day, Dr Mahathir will attend another meet-the-people session at the Sekolah Menengah Kebangsaan Ayer Lanas, Jeli about 80km from here. Some 10,000 people are expected to attend the gathering scheduled at 9.30am.

During the function, Ramli said Dr Mahathir would present assistance to victims of tiger attacks last year and their next of kin, as well as school uniforms to 20 poor students.

Siti Hasmah meanwhile is scheduled to officiate the programme "Utamakan Keluarga: Semakin Hari Semakin Sayang" at the main hall of Universiti Sains Malaysia, Health Campus, Kubang Kerian, here on Thursday at about 11am.

Dr Mahathir and his wife will attend a luncheon with Kelantan Umno leaders at the airport before returning to the federal capital at 1.30pm.

-- BERNAMA

ZI RAR ABG