

03 JAN 2003

DR M TAKES IN VIEW AT GUNUNG MACHINCHANG

LANGKAWI, Jan 3 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad today visited Gunung Machinchang to get a panoramic view of Pulau Langkawi.

Armed with a video camera, he spent about 30 minutes on the peak of Gunung Machinchang, which is accessible by a 15-minute cable-car ride.

After arriving at the Langkawi International Airport at 5.55pm, the prime minister immediately left by car for Oriental Village, Teluk Burau, where the base station for the cable car is located.

Dr Mahathir was accompanied by his wife Datin Seri Dr Siti Hasmah Mohd Ali and their grandchildren, Engku Anisha Che Wan Mohd Adlil, 15, and her sister Engku Zehan, 13. Also present was Kedah Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Syed Razak Syed Zain.

The RM46 million cable-car project, a joint venture between Dopple-Mayer of Austria and a local company, was opened to the public last Nov 1.

At night, Dr Mahathir and his wife visited the Kompleks Kraf Langkawi in Teluk Yu, where a handicraft festival was held.

In conjunction with the festival, Entrepreneur Development Minister Datuk Seri Nazri Aziz tonight launched the "Malam Gemilang Mahsuri" entertainment event.

Dr Mahathir joined thousands of people in watching the performances at the launch.

-- BERNAMA

ZI MZM YBY