

20 SEP 2003

Mahathir-Sweden

DR M LEAVES FOR LONDON EN ROUTE TO WORKING VISIT TO SWEDEN

SEPANG, Sept 20 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamed left for London tonight en route to Sweden for his three-day working visit to the country starting Monday.

Dr Mahathir, accompanied by his wife, Datin Seri Dr Siti Hasmah Mohd Ali, left from the KL International Airport (KLIA) here at 11.40pm.

Among those at KLIA to see him off was Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi.

The Prime Minister is also accompanied by several ministers, menteriis besar, senior government officers, several members of the private sector and the media.

The visit, at the invitation of Swedish Prime Minister Goran Persson, is expected to enhance and strengthen bilateral ties and cooperation between the two countries.

Dr Mahathir is expected to hold bilateral talks with his counterpart on issues of mutual interest.

The Prime Minister will also be granted an audience with Sweden's reigning monarch King Carl XVI Gustaf.

He will also visit the Karolinska Medical Institute and the Ericsson Complex in Kista apart from meeting Swedish industry leaders and attending a dinner organised by finance company Investor AB.

This is the Prime Minister's second visit to Sweden, the first being in 1985.

-- BERNAMA

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