

19 JUN 2003

Umno-Packed

PWTC PACKED TO THE GILLS FOR PM SPEECH

KUALA LUMPUR, June 19 (Bernama) -- The problem of congestion synonymous with the words Kuala Lumpur spilled over into the Putra World Trade Centre (PWTC) today where the 54th Umno General Assembly is being held.

However, instead of the din of cars and putrid exhaust smells, the halls and walkways of PWTC on every floor were choc-a-bloc with bodies vying for the best seats in front of the closed-circuit television screens.

They have come from far and wide for no other reason than to witness for themselves the speech of Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, which could very well be his last as Umno president.

Unfortunately, the congestion caused movement problems among the people living in the "fast lane", in this case, media reporters and photographers covering the assembly.

Many complained of having to forge the ocean of bodies, which refused to part, to reach their destination.

Some reporters also had to guide their chosen "interviewees" into the bathroom for want of a peaceful spot to talk.

Alas for some, in such events there would surely be those who wish to show off their authority in keeping the security and peace by being rude to the media who inadvertently step into restricted areas.

-- BERNAMA

NM KHY EMK