

14 JUL 2004

Agong-Azizan

KING AMONG THOUSANDS WHO PAY LAST RESPECTS TO AZIZAN

KUALA LUMPUR, July 14 (Bernama) -- Yang di-Pertuan Agong Tuanku Syed Sirajuddin Syed Putra Jamalullail was among thousands of people who paid their last respects to the late Tan Sri Azizan Zainul Abidin, who was Petronas chairman, at his residence in Bukit Segambut, here.

Tuanku Syed Sirajuddin arrived at Azizan's personal residence at about noon.

Among the earliest to arrive at the residence were former Prime Minister Tun Mahathir Mohamad and wife Tun Dr Siti Hasmah Mohd Ali, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi and Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Abdul Razak.

Sultan Perak also paid his last respects to Azizan earlier this morning.

Azizan died at his official residence at Putrajaya this morning after complaining of chest pains at 4.15am.

Azizan, 69, who was also chairman of Malaysia Airlines and Putrajaya Corporation, is survived by Puan Sri Noor Ainee Che Teh, and children Amir Hamzah, 37, Datin Norizan, 34, and Ikhwan, 25.

Also seen paying their respects among the throng were former Deputy Prime Minister Tan Sri Musa Hitam and former Finance Minister Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah, corporate figures and friends.

Tengku Razaleigh described Azizan's passing as a big loss not only to Petronas but also the government which had been deprived of a loyal employee who was a serious, diligent, responsible and efficient worker.

Speaking to reporters after paying his respects, Tengku Razaleigh said Azizan had served the government for a long time ever since the third Prime Minister the late Tun Hussein Onn.

He said that when he was the Minister of Trade and Industry, Azizan was then the Secretary-General of the ministry.

Azizan's remains were taken to Putrajaya for burial at the Taman Selatan Putrajaya in a Putrajaya Corporation van at about 1.40pm.

--BERNAMA

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