

Muhyiddin Begins UK Visit Today
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LONDON -- Malaysian Deputy Prime Minister Muhyiddin Yassin will make an official visit to the United Kingdom from today to Sunday.

Muhyiddin, who is also the education minister, is scheduled to arrive at London's Heathrow Airport at 5.50 am Thursday.

He will be accompanied by wife, Noorainee Abdul Rahman, as well as government officials and media representatives.

Muhyiddin starts his official visit on Friday with a meeting with Prof Frances Corner, head of the London College of Fashion, University of the Arts London, and will be taken on a tour of the college.

He will perform Friday prayers at the Malaysian High Commission at 45, Belgrave Square, here.

Later that day, he is scheduled to launch the "Merdeka Forum: 54 Years of Merdeka: Building a Nation, Sharing a Destiny" at a hotel here, which is expected to be attended by 300 Malaysians, including students in London.

The director of the Institute of Ethnic Studies, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM), Distinguished Professor Dr Shamsul Amri Baharuddin, and Chief Executive of the Institute of Strategic and International Studies (ISIS) Malaysia, Dr Mahani Zainal Abidin, are scheduled to speak on the topic. Malaysia's High Commissioner to the United Kingdom, Zakaria Sulong, will act as the moderator.

Muhyiddin is also scheduled to have a meeting and dialogue with the Malaysian community and students here.

On Saturday, Muhyiddin and his delegation will attend the Merdeka Carnival 2011 at the Tun Abdul Razak Research Centre in Brickendonbury, Hertford.

Zakaria, when met by reporters, said Muhyiddin's visit was also an opportunity for the Malaysian community and students in London to meet the deputy prime minister and get a briefing on the latest issues back home.

For the record, there are about 70,000 Malaysians in the United Kingdom, 14,000 of them students.

(Bernama)