

Dr M celebrates Singapore's bicentennial

SINGAPORE: Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad attended Singapore's Bicentennial National Day Parade yesterday.

Dr Mahathir and his wife, Tun Dr Siti Hasmah Mohd Ali, arrived in a special aircraft at Changi Airport at 5.05pm and were received at the VIP complex by Singapore Foreign Affairs Minister Dr Vivian Balakrishnan.

Dr Mahathir was accompanied by Foreign Minister Datuk Sai-

fuddin Abdullah and senior officials from the Prime Minister's Office and Foreign Ministry.

Dr Mahathir was invited by Singapore Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong to attend the parade at the Padang here.

The parade was attended by Sultan of Brunei Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah and Indonesian President Joko Widodo.

Wisma Putra said Dr Mahathir's visit to Singapore symbolised the

close relations between the two countries.

Malaysia and Singapore have enjoyed 54 years of diplomatic ties and maintained good relations as close neighbours, as well as partners in Asean, it said.

The parade commemorates the 200th anniversary of Sir Stamford Raffles' arrival in Singapore. Raffles was the founder of modern Singapore. **Bernama**