

Dr M heads to UK for a four-day working visit

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PUTRAJAYA: Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad will make a four-day working visit to the United Kingdom ending Jan 20.

The visit to the UK would be the second by Dr Mahathir since becoming the prime minister on May 10 last year.

Dr Mahathir is scheduled to deliver a speech at Frewin Court, Oxford, tomorrow and meet Commonwealth secretary-general Patricia Scotland, also on the same day.

"Among the issues to be discussed during their meeting are intra-Commonwealth trade and investment, good governance and preventing and countering extremism," said a statement from Wisma Putra yesterday.

During the first visit here the Malaysian delegation had meetings with captains of industry, key investors, international capital market analysts and potential new investors based in the UK and European Union (EU).

The Foreign Ministry said yesterday that the Prime Minister's visit this time is aimed at continuing the long-standing good relations that had been established between Malaysia and the UK.

The visit is also expected to strengthen the bond of friendship and cooperation between the two countries, it added.

Dr Mahathir will be accompanied by his wife, Tun Dr Siti Hasmah Mohd Ali, Deputy Foreign Minister Datuk Marzuki Yahya as well as senior officials from the Foreign Ministry.

Before leaving for London, Dr Mahathir also attended the Third International Conference on the Emergence of Africa in Dakar, Senegal.

He had the distinction of being the only Asian head of government invited to take part in the conference. — Bernama