

FAVOURITE VENUE

"Dr M and his wife shop for Raya at Pekan Rabu

ALOR STAR: *Putu kacang* and *kuih karas* are among Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad's and his wife Tun Dr Siti Hasmah Mohd Ali's favourite traditional treats that always end up on their shopping list whenever they visit Pekan Rabu to shop for Hari Raya Aidilfitri.

Warisan Mak Chah stall owner Suria Hassan, 49, said Dr Mahathir and Dr Siti Hasmah were long-time customers.

She said they had been patronising her stall since the 1980s to buy traditional kuih.

"They have been buying from the stall since the time my late grandfather manned it.

"They make it a point to come here to buy traditional kuih as part of preparations for Aidilfitri.

"It's so easy to deal with Dr Siti Hasmah.

"Despite being particular when it comes to choosing kuih, both of them are not picky and they don't mind the price.

"I am honoured that the country's No. 1 leader continues to choose my stall.

"He also spends some time catching up with traders here,"



Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad wearing the songkok dubbed 'Style Tun' made by Sardi Dahar (second from right) at the latter's shop in Pekan Rabu, Alor Star, yesterday, pic by amran hamid

she said yesterday.

Besides the couple's favourite kuih, Dr Siti Hasmah also buys *dodol lemak*, *dodol durian*, *kuih bangkit*, *kuah rojak*, *serunding*, *biskut suji* and *acar limau*.

Dr Mahathir, who arrived sep-

arately about 11am at Pekan Rabu, spent 20 minutes at the complex.

Present was Perak Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Ahmad Faizal Azumu.

Dr Mahathir bought his favourite songkok, dubbed "Style

Tun", handmade by Sardi Dahar.

Sardi said the prime minister's name was synonymous with Pekan Rabu as he was once a trader here.

"This songkok has been in the market for 10 years and Tun Dr

Mahathir will tell me to always make sure that this product is of quality.

"Besides the songkok, he also bought a pair of *capal* (traditional thong sandals), *baju melayu* buttons and *kain sampin*."