

HOUR-LONG VISIT

Dr Mahathir impressed by Kajang grape farm

KAJANG: Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad spent an hour visiting a grape farm yesterday morning.

Dr Mahathir drove himself to the farm — Taman Agro Ferigasi — in Jalan Mawar, Kampung Sungai Ramal, in a Proton X70 Sports Utility Vehicle.

He arrived at the farm at 9am and was met by its owner, Marzuki Safiee, 59.

During his hour-long visit, Dr Mahathir did not resist the opportunity to pluck several grapes even though they would not be ripe for another two weeks.

"This is the fruit three months after it was planted. It has not ripened yet. The dark colour is usually sweet and in another two weeks, it will be ripe.

"At that time (when it's ripe). I have told them to send me one box," he said.

Marzuki, meanwhile, said the grape plant was cultivated using a pioneering grafting method, which would see the grapes ripening in three months.

"There are 300 grape plants grown in a rain shelter house measuring 80m x 80m.

"The grape seeds were sourced from Ukraine."

Marzuki said Dr Mahathir also checked out other crops, such as rock melon, chillies and asparagus, which were being cultivated at the farm.