

STARTING TODAY

Dr M arrives in Bangkok for Asean Summit

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BANGKOK: Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad arrived here yesterday for the 35th Asean Summit and Related Summit, which commences today.

The special aircraft carrying Dr Mahathir and his wife, Tun Dr Siti Hasmah Mohamad Ali, touched down at the Military Air Terminal Two, Wing Six of the Don Mueang International Airport at 4.50pm.

They were greeted upon arrival by Thai Education Minister Nataphol Teepsuwan, Foreign Minister Datuk Saifuddin Abdullah and Malaysian ambassador to Thailand, Datuk Jojie Samuel.

Dr Mahathir will join his coun-

terparts for the second and final Asean Summit hosted by Thailand as Chair of Asean 2019.

His schedule is packed with back-to-back meetings during the three-day summit at the IMPACT Convention and Exhibition Centre here.

The Malaysian delegation includes Saifuddin and International Trade and Industry Minister Datuk Darell Leiking, as well as senior government officials from the Prime Minister's Office, Wisma Putra and International Trade and Industry Ministry.

Dr Mahathir is scheduled to attend at least eight summit meetings with leaders from the grouping and from the region, as well as



Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad being greeted upon his arrival at the Military Air Terminal Two, Wing Six of the Don Mueang International Airport in Bangkok yesterday. BERNAMA PIC

two bilateral meetings with his Thai counterpart General Prayut Chan-o-cha and Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison.

The bilateral meetings are expected to boost Malaysia's bilat-

eral relations with other countries and enhance understanding on pertinent regional and global issues.

Dr Mahathir will kick off his visit today with a visit to the

Asean Community Showcase themed "Asean Styles: Sharing the Future" and a tour of the Malaysian exhibition site, which showcases products and services from Malaysia. **Bernama**