

Najib attends 1Malaysia Deepavali open house
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PUTRAJAYA: Datuk Seri Najib Razak was all smiles yesterday as he joined some 4,000 people who had turned up for the 1Malaysia Deepavali open house here yesterday.

Many pushed their way forward trying to catch a glimpse of the prime minister and to shake his hand as he walked into the Puspanitapuri hall in Presint 10 last night.

Najib also placed the finishing touches to the Deepavali kolam, which was in the shape of the 1Malaysia logo.

He was received by Human Resources Minister Datuk Seri Dr S. Subramaniam and wife, Datin Seri Dr Uma Rani, as well as Deputy Human Resources Minister Senator Datuk Maznah Mazlan.

Subramaniam also placed a flower garland on Najib to welcome him to the open house.

Present were Chief Secretary to the Government Datuk Seri Dr Ali Hamsa, Minister in Prime Minister's Department Datuk Seri G. Palanivel and Energy, Green Technology and Water Minister Datuk Seri Peter Chin Fah Kui.

Held for the fifth time, the open house saw the attendance of both young and old, irrespective of race and religion.

Guests were served with various traditional Indian dishes and sweetmeats, aside from being entertained with instrumental music and dance performances.

In Malaysia, Deepavali, which means "row of lights" in Sanskrit, sees Hindus light candles and oil lamps to celebrate the triumph of good over evil.

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