

Najib Arrives In Bandung For Two-day Working Visit

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By Azeman Ariffin

BANDUNG, April 23 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak arrived here Thursday for a two-day working visit to attend the 60th anniversary celebrations of the Asia-Africa Conference and 10th anniversary of the New Asian-African Strategic Partnership.

The special aircraft carrying Najib and his wife Datin Seri Rosmah Mansor landed at the Bandar Udara Internasional Husein Sastranegara Airport about 4.30pm local time (5.30 pm) and was greeted by Indonesia's Minister for Administrative and Bureaucratic Reform Yuddy Chrisnandi, Ambassador Plenipotentiary and Extraordinary of the Republic of Indonesia Herman Prayitno.

The prime minister was also received by Malaysia's Ambassador to Indonesia Datuk Seri Zahrain Mohamed Hashim and wife Datin Seri Che Mahani Ismail.

In the evening Najib is scheduled to meet about 200 hundreds Malaysian students studying in Republic of Indonesia at Hilton Hotel here.

Minister of Communication and Multimedia Datuk Seri Ahmand Shabery Cheek was also scheduled to join the dinner with prime minister and the students. Tomorrow the prime minister will join Indonesia's president Joko Widodo and Asia-Africa Conference delegates for the Historical Walk at Gedung Merdeka, here.

Zahrain said the prime minister's visit would provide the opportunity to exchange views on bilateral, regional and international issues of mutual interest with leaders from Asian and African countries.

He said the visit also symbolised Malaysia's continued support and commitment in strengthening cooperation with other developing countries, especially in Asia and Africa with the sole purpose of promoting world peace and prosperity through South-South cooperation.

The anniversary celebrations of the Asia-Africa Conference and the New Asian-African Strategic Partnership will bring together heads of state from 109 countries in Asia and Africa.

The celebrations will begin with the Asian-African Ministers Meeting on April 20 and 21, followed by the Asian-African Summit themed "Strengthening South-South Cooperation to Promote World Peace and Prosperity" on April 22 and 23 in Jakarta.

The first Asia-Africa Conference was co-organised by five countries namely India, Indonesia, Myanmar, Pakistan and Sri Lanka in Bandung, Indonesia in 1955. This

conference symbolises the sharing of aspirations and solidarity among newly independent Asian and African countries.

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