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Visit

MAHATHIR TO VISIT VIETNAM IN MARCH

By: Rachman Nordin

HANOI, Feb 14 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad is scheduled to visit Vietnam early next month, the Vietnamese Foreign Ministry announced today.

It will be his second visit to Vietnam in four years and the first by an Asean head of government this year.

A one paragraph statement issued by the ministry's Press and Information Department said "Malaysia and Vietnam will discuss measures to strengthen the friendship and cooperative relations between the two countries," during the visit.

It did not give details of the visit, saying they were "being discussed by the two sides."

No details were also forthcoming from the Malaysian Embassy here but preparations being made by some key Malaysian companies here indicated that Dr Mahathir's trip will be a working one.

Preparations were underway for Dr Mahathir to officially open the Maybank branch here which opened in September last year.

He is also scheduled to officiate at the ground-breaking of an export processing zone (EPZ) being developed a subsidiary of Malaysia's Kinta Kellas Group and visit projects with Malaysian investments in the central province of Danang and the southern commercial hub of Ho Chi Minh City.

A Malaysian consortium is developing an EPZ in Danang while Perusahaan Otomobil Nasional (Proton) and Malaysia Glass have joint venture factories in Ho Chi Minh City. -- BERNAMA

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