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DR MAHATHIR AND ANWAR GET HOLIDAY INVITE FROM S'WAK

KUCHING, Dec 12 (Bernama) -- The Sarawak government has invited Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad and his deputy Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim to have their vacation in the state.

State Tourism Minister Dr James Jemut Masing said today the invitations were sent three days ago.

"Similar invitations will be sent to cabinet ministers," he told reporters here after opening a seminar on the Tourism Industrial Act.

They would be given attractive holiday packages, including three days and two nights stay at a five-star hotel plus return air ticket for RM333, he said.

Masing, who is Bakun Resettlement and Socio-Economic Committee chairman, said the resettlement date for Belaga residents affected by the Bakun hydroelectric project would be reviewed now that construction of the dam has been deferred.

A total of 9,428 Belaga residents will be resettled in stages with the first batch scheduled for January 1998.

The exercise, originally set for this month, was postponed due to infrastructural glitches, said Masing, who is also Bakun Trust Fund Committee chairman.

He said the committee's RM5-million compensation claim from the project's developer Bakun Hydroelectric Corporation (BHC) was also deferred due to the present economic crisis. -- BERNAMA

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