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DR MAHATHIR TO SPEAK ON SOUTHEAST ASIA'S PROSPECTS

By: Yong Soo Heong

HANNOVER, March 18 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad will talk on Southeast Asia's future challenges and prospects after its economic crisis when he addresses the Malaysian German Business Forum here Thursday.

The Southeast Asian currency and stock market crises have generated considerable attention among German business concerns.

A busy schedule awaits Dr Mahathir when he arrives here for a three-day visit beginning Thursday.

While his visit here is to specifically promote Malaysia's Multimedia Super Corridor initiative, he is also due to meet German Chancellor Helmut Kohl. Their meeting is expected to centre on enhancing bilateral ties.

Both leaders may also discuss the upcoming Asia-Europe Meeting in London on April 3 and 4.

Dr Mahathir, who will be accompanied by Multimedia Development Corporation chairman Tan Sri Dr Othman Yeop Abdullah and the National Information Technology Council's permanent secretary, Datuk Tengku Dr Mohamed Azzman Shariffaddeen, will also meet 30 of Germany's top multimedia and information technology leaders at the CeBit'98 International Trade Fair on IT and telecommunications.

CeBit'98, which is regarded as the world's largest trade fair, will be held at the sprawling Hannover fairground from Friday until March 25.

Dr Mahathir is expected to tour CeBit'98 extensively. CeBit'98 has attracted leading IT and telecommunications companies from more than 60 countries. Twelve companies from Malaysia are taking part in the fair. --

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