

15 JAN 1998

Mahathir-Jakarta

DR MAHATHIR TO MEET SUHARTO IN JAKARTA

KUALA LUMPUR, Jan 15 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad has confirmed that he will make a trip to Jakarta for talks with President Suharto.

"I'm just going to see him and discuss because we are neighbours," he told a news conference after chairing a National Information Technology Council meeting here today.

The Prime Minister said he has yet to fix the date for the trip.

"But I would like to make a visit (to Indonesia)," he said when asked to confirm news reports from Jakarta, quoting Indonesian State Secretariat Minister Moerdiono, of Dr Mahathir's impending trip.

Suharto had spoken with leaders of several nations the past week over Indonesia's difficulties due to the financial and economic crises in Asia.

Suharto and International Monetary Fund (IMF) managing director Michel Camdessus signed a memorandum in Jakarta today to accelerate reforms to deal with the turmoil.

The memorandum sets out fresh steps Indonesia must take under a US\$43-billion bailout package agreed with the IMF last October. -- BERNAMA

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