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DR MAHATHIR TO UPDATE HIMSELF DURING VISITS TO ASEAN COUNTRIES

KUALA LUMPUR, Feb 4 (Bernama) -- Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said his visit to three Asean-member countries is merely to update himself on the situation in those countries following the economic crisis that plunged the region since the middle of last year.

"I'm visiting Thailand not because Al-Fayed was there," he told a joint press conference with Egyptian-born tycoon Mohamed Al-Fayed.

Al-Fayed is on a three-day visit to Malaysia and among the places he had visited include Langkawi and the Kuala Lumpur International Airport in Sepang.

Al-Fayed was in Thailand before coming to Malaysia.

Dr Mahathir is scheduled to leave for Bangkok tomorrow followed by Manila and Singapore.

"I'm calling on friends, the Thai Prime Minister, going to see Fidel Ramos and I will be dropping in Singapore to meet Goh Chok Tong," he said.

"It's kind of updating myself on the situation in the Asean grouping," he added. --BERNAMA

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