

16 JAN 1998

Mahathir-Camdessus

IMF CHIEF HOLD TALKS WITH DR MAHATHIR

KUALA LUMPUR, Jan 16 (Bernama) -- International Monetary Fund (IMF) managing director Michel Camdessus met Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad today to discuss, among others, the current economic problems facing several Asian countries, including Malaysia.

The meeting was held at the Prime Minister's Department.

Yesterday, Dr Mahathir said that Malaysia would discuss its views on the current economic crisis with Camdessus.

Kuala Lumpur has said that it has no intention of seeking IMF assistance.

Camdessus, who arrived here yesterday for a two-day visit, is scheduled to meet Bank Negara officials later. He met Treasury officials earlier.

The IMF chief held talks with Deputy Prime Minister and Finance Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim at the Treasury yesterday.

Camdessus is visiting a number of Asian countries, including South Korea, in efforts to mitigate the economic crisis facing the region.

While in Indonesia yesterday, Camdessus and Indonesian President Suharto signed a memorandum on the acceleration of reforms to deal with Indonesia's financial turmoil.

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

Camdessus will leave for Singapore later today. -- BERNAMA

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