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AGONG SENDS INDEPENDENCE DAY GREETINGS TO VENEZUELA

KUALA LUMPUR, July 5 (Bernama) -- Yang di-Pertuan Agong Sultan Salahuddin Abdul Aziz Shah has congratulated Venezuelan President Hugo Rafael Chavez Frias on the occasion of his country's Independence Day today.

In his message, the King wished Venezuela continued peace, progress and prosperity.

Sultan Salahuddin said he was looking forward to meet Frias when he visits Malaysia in October.

In a similar message to Frias, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said he was also looking forward to Frias' visit.

Dr Mahathir said the visit would help strengthen the existing friendship and cooperation between the governments and peoples of both countries.

Foreign Minister Datuk Seri Syed Hamid Albar, in a message to his counterpart Jose Vicente Rangelto, said he was looking forward to establish personal and official relationships with him.

-- BERNAMA

AKT YBY