

05 JUL 1999

BURYATIA PRESIDENT CALLS ON DR MAHATHIR

PUTRAJAYA, July 5 (Bernama) -- President of Buryatia Republic, Leonid Vassilievich Potapov today called on Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad at his office here.

Potapov is the first foreign leader to call on Dr Mahathir at Putrajaya since the Prime Minister's Department moved to the new federal administrative centre here on June 21.

Potapov, who arrived Friday for a six-day visit, met Dr Mahathir for 30 minutes and both leaders discussed possible co-operation between the two countries.

Russia's Buryatia is an autonomous republic in the South-Central region of Siberia along the eastern shore of Lake Baikal.

Its natural resources are zinc, gold, bentonite, led, graphite, marble and 72 per cent of its territory is forested.

Earlier, Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi received his Kyrgyzstan counterpart Esengul Omuraliev at his office here.

Omuraliev is also the country's Foreign Trade and Industry Minister.

-- BERNAMA

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