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PM in good health after treatment

KUALA LUMPUR, Sun.- The Prime Minister, who is undergoing treatment for a lung infection, is in good health, Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said today.

Abdullah, who visited Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad at the National Heart Institute, said the Prime Minister needed rest after his hectic schedule that included visits to States and campaigning in the Sabah election last month.

"I went to see the Prime Minister earlier today and I feel there is no cause for worry over his health," Abdullah said after chairing a pre-council meeting for Barisan Nasional's members of parliament ahead of tomorrow's opening of Dewan Rakyat sitting.

Dr Mahathir was admitted to the IJN on Friday as he had a lung infection after returning from performing the haj on Wednesday.

Abdullah said he pointed out to the Prime Minister that he should be able to return to work in two or three days' time.

"The Prime Minister replied insyaallah (God willing)," Abdullah said.

A statement issued by the Prime Minister's office said:

"On his return from performing the haj on Wednesday, March 31, 1999, Yang Amat Berhormat Dato Seri Dr Mahathir bin Mohamad, the Prime Minister of Malaysia suffered a lung infection. He has been advised by his regular doctors at the National Heart Institute to rest and undergo full treatment. For this purpose, Yang Amat Berhormat was admitted to the National Heart Institute on Friday, April 2, 1999 at 8.00pm. Yang Amat Berhormat is expected to be warded at the National Heart Institute for a few more days.

"The condition of Yang Amat Berhormat is now stable. However, doctors have advised Yang Amat Berhormat not to receive visitors to allow him to have proper rest."

Abdullah was also asked why Dr Mahathir was admitted to the IJN when he was suffering from lung infection.

Abdullah citing himself as example, saying that as someone who underwent heart surgery at the IJN, he was told to go there for conditions like cold or bronchitis. "And I have been there for a few times," he said.

The Deputy Prime Minister said the regular doctors of the Prime Minister were also at the IJN.

Abdullah is expected to represent the Prime Minister at tomorrow's opening of the Dewan Rakyat session.

(END)