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KING CONGRATULATES RUSSIA'S PUTIN ON NATIONAL DAY

KUALA LUMPUR, June 12 (Bernama) -- Yang di-Pertuan Agong Sultan Salahuddin Abdul Aziz Shah has congratulated President Vladimir Putin on the occasion of the National Day of the Russian Federation today.

According to Wisma Putra, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad sent a similar message to his counterpart, Mikhail Kasyanov.

In his message, Dr Mahathir said Malaysia and Russia had over the years developed mutually beneficial cooperation in many areas.

"It is my hope that these ties can be further strengthened and consolidated in the years ahead," he said.

Foreign Minister Datuk Seri Syed Hamid Albar said it was heartening to note the increasing bilateral cooperation between both sides.

"I look forward to continuing our close cooperation to further strengthen bilateral ties for our mutual advantage," he told his Russian counterpart, Igor Ivanov, in a similar message.

-- BERNAMA

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