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Putin accepts invitation

MOSCOW, Fri. - Russian President Vladimir Putin has "accepted with gratitude" the invitation to visit Malaysia at a "mutually convenient date".

It is understood that the visit could take place in October just before the fasting month.

The invitation was extended by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad during the bilateral meeting on Thursday.

The two leaders have, before this, met on the sides lines of the Apec meetings in Brunei and Shanghai.

According to officials who participated in the delegation meeting, the "chemistry between the two leaders is very good".

Putin, it is understood, had described Dr Mahathir as a "very strong leader".

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