

07 JUL 2003

Russia-Postpone

PRESIDENT PUTIN'S VISIT TO MALAYSIA POSTPONED INDEFINITELY

KUALA LUMPUR, July 7 (Bernama) -- Russian President Vladimir Putin who was scheduled to make an official visit to Malaysia from tomorrow has postponed his visit indefinitely.

In a statement the Secretary of the Ceremonies Division of the International Conference Secretariat, Prime Minister's Department, Datuk Abdullah Yatim said the visit would take place at a date to be announced in the future.

Meanwhile foreign news agencies reported that President Putin postponed his visit to Malaysia because of the suicide bombing carried out by two Chechen separatists at a rock concert site near Tushino Airport in Moscow on Saturday.

The death toll from the bombing had risen to 22, according to the reports.

During his visit, President Putin was scheduled to hold talks with Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad and launch the Malaysia-Russia Chamber of Commerce.

-- BERNAMA

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