

Ukraine's Crimea Prime Minister Vasyl Dzharty Dies

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KIEV, Aug 17 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister of the Crimean Autonomous Republic Vassily Dzharty died of cancer early Wednesday, reports China's Xinhua news agency.

According to his aide, last respects for the deceased will be paid on Thursday in Makeyevka, where Dzharty was mayor for a long time.

Metropolitan Lazar of Simferopol and the Crimea will conduct the service for the prime minister.

Dzharty, 53, a member of Ukraine's ruling Regions Party, had pledged to turn Crimea into a "Ukrainian tourist oasis" after becoming Crimean Prime Minister in March 2010.

Under his leadership, the roads had been repaired and infrastructure improved in the autonomous republic.

Dzharty had been fighting serious illness and cancer since the end of 2010, and had been treated at the hospitals in Russia and Germany.

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