

ZCZC NO72 (F/S)  
MAHATHIR-PRIVATISE



BY IDZAN ISMAIL

KUALA LUMPUR, MARCH 7 (BERNAMA)-- THE GOVERNMENT PLANS TO PRIVATISE THE LADY TEMPLER HOSPITAL IN CHERAS, PRIME MINISTER DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD DISCLOSED TODAY.

HOWEVER HE SAID THE MATTER WOULD HAVE TO BE STUDIED IN DETAIL BEFORE A DECISION COULD BE REACHED ON WHEN THE PRIVATISATION WOULD TAKE PLACE.

THE QUESTION OF PRIVATISING THE HOSPITAL WAS DISCUSSED AT THE WEEKLY CABINET MEETING CHAIRED BY THE PRIME MINISTER THIS MORNING.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR POINTED OUT THAT THE IMPLICATIONS TO THE HOSPITAL INCLUDING ITS LEGAL STATUS AND THE ADVANTAGES IT WOULD ENJOY HAD TO BE SORTED OUT BEFORE THE GREEN LIGHT WAS GIVEN TO IMPLEMENT THE PRIVATISATION CONCEPT.

+THE MATTER IS BEING REFERRED BACK TO THE HEALTH MINISTRY? AND AS SUCH, WE HAVE NOT DECIDED ON THE DEAD LINE FOR THE PRIVATISATION,+ HE TOLD BERNAMA.

THE LADY TEMPLER HOSPITAL WAS FOUNDED IN 1955 SOLELY FOR THE TREATMENT OF TUBERCULOSIS AND THORAXIC SURGERY. -- MORE 1630/PA

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MAHATHIR-PRIVATISE 2 KUALA LUMPUR

LAST YEAR, DEPUTY HEALTH MINISTER DATUK K. PATHMANABAN HAD ANNOUNCED THAT THE MINISTRY WOULD TAKE OVER THE HOSPITAL AND TURN IT INTO THE SECOND GENERAL HOSPITAL FOR THE CITY.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID TODAY'S CABINET MEETING ALSO DISCUSSED THE POSSIBILITY OF INCREASING THE FREQUENCY OF MAS FLIGHTS TO LONDON. AT PRESENT MAS FLIES FOUR TIMES A WEEK TO THE BRITISH CAPITAL.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID DISCUSSIONS WOULD HAVE TO BE CARRIED OUT WITH THE BRITISH AUTHORITIES TO SECURE MORE LANDING RIGHTS TO BRITAIN WEEKLY,+ HE ADDED. -- BERNAMA 1634/PA

ZCZC B617:

MAHATHIR-PENGSWATAAN

OLEH IDZAN ISMAIL

KUALA LUMPUR, 7 MAC (BERNAMA) -- KERAJAAN BERCADANG UNTUK MENG-SWASTAKAN HOSPITAL LADY TEMPLER OF CHERAS, KATA DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD.

BAGAIMANAPUN, KATA PERORANG MENTERI, PERKARA ITU PERLU DIKAJI DENGAN TELIT SEBELUM MEMUTUSKAN BILAKAH PENGSWASTAAN ITU AKAN DILAKSANAKAN.

SOAL MENGSWASTAKAN HOSPITAL ITU TELAH DIBINCANGKAN DALAM MESYUARAT MINGGUAN KABINET YANG DIPENGERUSIKAN OLEH PERORANG MENTERI HARI INI.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR BERKATA KESAN TERHADAP HOSPITAL ITU TERMASUK KEDUDUKAN PERUNDANGANNYA DAN FAEDAH-FAEDAH YANG AKAN DINIKMATI PERLU DIBERESKAN SEBELUM DIBERI LAMPU HIJAU UNTUK MELAKSANAKAN KONSEP PENGSWASTAAN.

+PERKARA ITU TELAH DIRUJUK KEMBALI KEPADA KEMENTERIAN KESIHATAN DAN OLEH ITU KITA BELUM MEMUTUSKAN LAGI TENTANG TARIKH UNTUK DI-SWASTAKAN,+ KATANYA KEPADA BERNAMA. -- LAGI 1647/ZCM