

# Scheme to help army men buy houses

5 1 NOV 1985

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KUALA LUMPUR, Thurs. — Servicemen contributing to the Armed Forces Fund Board may soon be allowed to withdraw part of their money from the fund to buy houses.

Prime Minister and Defence Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said the board and the Government were making a "detailed study" into this possibility.

He also announced that the board would introduce a new scheme, the Death and Disablement Scheme, tomorrow to give contributors additional benefits.

Under the scheme, the next-of-kin of a contributor will receive an additional payment, besides those provided for under the fund, should he die in service.

This additional payment would also be paid to a contributor who became disabled during his service, Dr Mahathir added when opening the \$35 million Bangunan Lembaga Tabung Angkatan Tentera (LTAT) here today.

Dr Mahathir added that the yearly profits from investments made by the board would be channelled to a special fund to operate the scheme.

Dr Mahathir also planted a *pokok tanjung* in front of the building after unveiling a plaque.

He later spent about 30 minutes touring the 14 storey-building.

The Prime Minister's wife, Datuk Paduka Datin Seri Dr Siti Hasmah, Deputy Defence Minister Datuk Abang Abu Bakar Mustapha and the board chairman Tan Sri Datuk Haji Mohamed Yusof bin Abdul Rahman were also present.