

Sedition Act: No decision yet

Sun 23 DEC 1990

KUALA LUMPUR, Sat. — Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad today clarified that the special Umno committee set up to study the party's general assembly resolution on the monarchy and the constitution has yet to make its recommendations.

The Prime Minister said the assembly, among other things, proposed that the resolution be presented to the Rulers and amendments made to the Sedition Act so that the people could criticise the Rulers.

"We have not deliberated and decided on the propo-

sals yet," said the Umno president to newspaper editors at his office soon after returning from a week-long unofficial visit to London.

Dr Mahathir, however, said that there was a possibility that he and Deputy Prime Minister Ghafar Baba might call on the Rulers.

"We would share the task between us," he said, clarifying a report from London which quoted him as saying that the Government would not amend the Sedition Act and that Encik Ghafar, who is the Deputy Umno president,

would meet the Rulers to brief them on the Umno general assembly debate and resolution on the monarchy and the constitution.

Dr Mahathir said the committee had also not completed its study of the proposal to amend the Sedition Act.

While in London, Dr Mahathir met British Prime Minister John Major. They discussed bilateral and international issues including the Gulf crisis, the democratisation of Eastern Europe and political developments in the Soviet Union.

Dr Mahathir also met former British Premier Margaret Thatcher and had an informal meeting with Malaysian students in the United Kingdom.

Meanwhile, Sabah Chief Minister Datuk Seri Joseph Pairin Kitingan, who was at the Subang International Airport to catch a flight home with his family, dropped by the VIP lounge to greet the Prime Minister who arrived home this morning.

Datuk Seri Pairin was here to attend the Dewan Rakyat sitting.