

PM: I will have talk with Daim

8 JAN 1991

KUALA LUMPUR, Mon. —
~~Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir~~
~~Mohamad~~ said he would
discuss with Finance
Minister Datuk Paduka
Daim Zainuddin his inten-
tion to resign from the Ca-
binet.

"I want to retain his ser-
vices as Finance Minister
but if he insists upon re-
signing, we will have to dis-
cuss the matter seriously
before any decision is
made.

"It has always been on
his mind to resign since
1986 and now that there is
talk of his intention to re-
sign, I will have to speak to
him on the matter," he said.

There has been specula-
tion among politicians and
corporate leaders that the
Finance Minister would
soon tender his resigna-
tion.

Growth

The Prime Minister said
Datuk Paduka Daim had
repeatedly expressed his
desire to resign from the
Cabinet.

The Prime Minister said
he would continue his ef-
forts to persuade the Fi-
nance Minister to remain
in office as his services
were still needed by the na-
tion, especially when the
country was experiencing
economic growth.

Dr Mahathir said the Fi-
nance Minister first ex-
pressed his intention to
leave the Cabinet before
the 1986 general election,
but agreed to stay on after
being persuaded to do so.

"There were other occa-
sions when he wanted to re-
sign but I told him to stay
on.

"The last was just before
the general election in Oc-
tober last year but I said no
and asked him to contest in
the election," he said.

Dr Mahathir said this in
response to reporters'
questions after opening the
'Project appraisal and risk
analysis management for
bankers' programme at the
Petronas Management In-
stitute in Bangi, Selangor.