

KL now a shopper's paradise, says Dr M

By AZAM ARIS 14 MAR 1991

THE Government's move to reduce tax on various consumer items over the years has been successful in turning Kuala Lumpur into a shopper's paradise for tourists and locals.

However, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said, the long-term effectiveness of lower tax on consumer items will taper off if retailers opt for short-term gains.

Opening the city's newest shopping centre, Lot 10, yesterday, he said retailers should pass on the low tax benefit to consumers. This will in the long term attract not only tourists but also locals to buy more.

"By opting for moderate gains, retailers and traders will gain long-term profitability," he said.

Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir said Kuala Lumpur is becoming increasingly popular among locals and foreign tourists as the city is clean and safe. As such, it can compete with the shopping centres of neighbouring countries.

In this respect, the Prime Minister wants owners of shopping centres to en-

sure that cleanliness is maintained so that they will continue to attract customers.

Keeping Kuala Lumpur clean is equally important and Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir wants city dwellers to continue supporting the cleanliness campaign conducted by the Government.

"A clean city will in turn benefit the population. It will also attract more tourists and new companies to open offices in Kuala Lumpur. There will be new and more job opportunities for the people," he said.

Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir said the Government is open to any proposals by the public to make Kuala Lumpur a better city.

"We want to see Kuala Lumpur attain the same status as other well-known cities of the world. By learning from the experience gained by the established cities we can avoid making the same mistakes that those cities made," he said.

He said he hopes Lot 10 can carve its own market niche in the city and be a successful shopping centre.