

# Cabinet to decide on inquiry: Dr M

B. K. 23. 6. 93.

THE Cabinet will decide whether or not to set up a Royal Commission of Inquiry into Saturday's fire in Port Klang, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said yesterday.

"While awaiting Cabinet decision, the relevant authorities concerned should proceed with a thorough investigation into the fire," Dr Mahathir told reporters after seeing off Uzbekistan President Dr Islam Karimov at the Subang International Airport.

Dr Mahathir said it was tragic that the fire, which broke out on board the cargo vessel *Choon Hong 111*, had resulted in a loss of lives.

"I am saddened by the incident," he said.

He said steps should be taken to ensure that similar

fires do not recur.

However, he added that even though precautions were taken, some times such accidents do happen.

"We have to learn from them," he said.

He added that some studies into such tragedies take between four and five years to complete. By the time the recommendations are made, another similar accident may occur, he added.

The fire which broke out on Saturday night destroyed a storage tank at Shell's Tiram Kimia jetty and partially damaged the Royal Selangor Yacht and a dinghy.

Karimov, who was on a four-day official visit to Malaysia with his 29-member delegation, left for Jakarta this morning. — NST