

# PM: Sabah's rights will be reviewed

13 NOV 1992

By T. SELVA  
and ELAN PERUMAL

KUALA LANGAT: The Federal Government will review the privileges and rights given to Sabah, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said yesterday.

He said there was a need to review the 20-point Inter-Government Commission Report because it had not been done so for over two decades.

"According to the

(1963) agreement, all the preconditions are meant to be reviewed after 10 years, but it has been more than 25 years since it was signed and we have not reviewed it," he said.

He said when the agreement was made, it was found that Sabah was behind other states in several sectors and conditions were set to protect the state's interests.

Dr Mahathir said this after opening phase one and launching phase two

of the Genting Sanyen paper mill.

He said Sabah Chief Minister Datuk Joseph Pairin Kitingan did not want a review and had gone around making unfounded claims on the agreement.

"He is using this issue to instigate the people," said Dr Mahathir.

He said the Federal Government did not want any debate on the matter, but Pairin had been making an issue out of the

agreement.

Dr Mahathir said Pairin was worried that the Federal Government would expose it and this was why he (Pairin) did not want to resolve the matter.

He said the conditions set for Sabah and Sarawak were better than those states in the peninsula.

Dr Mahathir said one of the conditions that needed a review was the state's immigration regulations.