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MINISTRY PROPOSES TV STATION FOR KLANG VALLEY

Mahathir - tv (with pix)

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KAJANG, Jan 1 (Bernama) --- The government will study a proposal by the Information Ministry for a private television station to serve the Klang Valley, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today.

It would also study a proposal by the ministry to corporatise and subsequently privatise Educational TV, he said.

+We will refer the proposals to the Cabinet for a decision,+ he told reporters at the Country Heights housing estate here where he attended a +Family Day+ gathering.

Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir was responding to reporters' questions on the proposals which Information Minister Datuk Mohamed Rahmat had announced when launching the function.

Datuk Mohamed had said that, the proposal for a private television station in the Klang Valley was made to fulfill an immediate need. The country now has only one private television station, TV3. -- more

▼01/01/15-00MST

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Mahathir - tv 2 Kajang

He also said that the ministry had received applications from several companies to operate the proposed television station.

On the proposed privatisation of Educational TV, he said the service would have its own station once it was privatised. Education TV is now handled by the Education and Information Ministries.

Datuk Mohamed also said that a privatised educational tv would serve not only students but also adults.

+We want to expand usage of the media for more effective education of the people with knowledge and skills so that national aspirations are achieved with greater impact,+ he said.

Datuk Mohamed said the contents of Educational TV would be improved and the company handling the service would be monitored by the government. -- more

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Mahathir - tv 3 (last) Kajang

+Educational tv can also contribute positively to the open university which the country proposes to introduce,+ he said.

Various events were held during the gathering, including tug-of-war and an acrobatics show.

Deputy Foreign Minister Datuk Dr Abdullah Fadzil Che Wan also attended the function. -- Bernama

▼01/01/15-04MST