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BUS SYSTEM IN KL UNDER STUDY

Mahathir-bus

10 JAN 1992

(v)

KUALA LUMPUR, Jan 10 (Bernama)-- Bus companies operating in Kuala Lumpur may be asked to merge in a move to overcome traffic congestion in the city.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Mahathir Mohamad said today besides restructuring the bus companies, another measure being seriously considered by the government was to change the bus routes.

+We have too many bus companies in Kuala Lumpur and operating according to the old plan,+ he told a press conference after opening the third Bumiputera Economic Congress here.

He said there were eight to 10 bus companies in the city, some of which were plying the same routes.

+All this is confusing and has caused congestion,+ said Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir who is also chairman of the Special Committee on the Development of Kuala Lumpur. -- more

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Mahathir-bus 2 Kuala Lumpur

Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir said the bus transportation system in Kuala Lumpur was different from that of other developed towns with the buses taking passengers to the town centre and causing congestion.

+In other countries the buses ply from north to south or east to west. In Malaysia, it is different, all (buses) converge in Pudu Raya and congest there.

+We should overcome this problem, (we) may have to restructure the bus routes and the bus companies,+ he said.

The prime minister had assessed the traffic congestion problem on board a Royal Malaysia Police helicopter earlier this week.

Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir said there would also be a monorail system in Kuala Lumpur and work on it was expected to start in three months. -- more

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Mahathir-bus 3 (last) Kuala Lumpur

The government was also studying implementation of the limited zone system in certain areas in the city to overcome the traffic congestion, he added.

He said Kuala Lumpur City Hall had made a model of the city and its surrounding areas on the instruction of the government.

Through this model, development planning and traffic control in Kuala Lumpur could be carried out more easily and in a systematic manner.

On the second national car, Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir said the government would decide on the matter within this month. -- Bernama