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PM wants power crisis resolved

PETALING JAYA: The Prime Minister yesterday directed the relevant authorities to take firm action to overcome the critical problem of power failures.

"I really feel that this is a critical matter which warrants firm action to ensure that there is enough power and electricity supply," he said.

Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said the authorities needed to zero in on the causes of the many power breakdowns and take the necessary steps to remedy them.

"The Cabinet has directed that a report be made on all power breakdowns in the country and we are quite shocked over the high number of such incidents," he told reporters at the Kuala Lumpur International Airport in Subang on his return from Pakistan.

The Prime Minister was responding to questions on the Cabinet decision on Wednesday to direct the Energy, Telecommunications and Post Ministry take all necessary action to overcome the power crisis.

However, Dr Mahathir said he was confident the power problem could be overcome with the Government's approval for Tenaga Nasional to buy two turbines.

"It will take a little more time to install the turbines," he said.

Energy, Telecommunications and Post Minister Datuk Seri S. Samy Vellu had said the Cabinet wanted the ministry to repair and maintain old turbines.

Samy Vellu also said he had explained to the Cabinet the moves taken by Tenaga in dealing with the crisis.