

# Dr M launches

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# work on KL Tower

KUALA LUMPUR: The Kuala Lumpur Tower, which is scheduled to be completed by the end of 1995, will bring the nation into the pinnacle of the telecommunications era, **Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad** said yesterday.

The Prime Minister said the tower would also enhance efforts to make the city the centre of communications in the region.

"When completed, the tower will be capable of utilising the latest communications technology

ever **invented**," he said after launching the construction of the tower's superstructure on the top of Bukit Nanas in Jalan Puncak.

He took pride in the fact that the tower is considered the most beautiful in the world in terms of design.

When completed, it will be the third tallest telecommunications antenna tower in the world, after the 553m CN Tower in Toronto, Canada, and the 537m Ostankino steel structure in Moscow.

The 421m Kuala Lumpur Tower is **expected** to be opened to the public in 1996.

Dr Mahathir described the construction work as "sophisticated" and urged the local technicians, engineers, architects and contractors to learn from the German contractors Wayys & Freitag (M) Sdn Bhd.

"This is also part of technology transfer," he said.

The tower would also serve as a tourist attrac-

tion and those who wish to visit the tower would be charged a fee, he said.

"If you want something good you have to pay for it. This is not profiteering because it will take 15 years to recover the cost of the tower," he said.

Information Minister Datuk Mohamed Rahmat, who was also at the launching, said the construction of the tower ~~would~~ cost RM270 million.

It can also be used for aviation and navigation communications, he said.