

PM: Learn skills from KL Tower project

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KUALA LUMPUR, Wed. — Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said local engineers and contractors should learn the method of construction of the Kuala Lumpur Tower to improve their skills.

The Prime Minister was impressed with the RM270 million project, describing it as unique.

It will be the third tallest telecommunication tower in the world at 421 metres on completion. It is now 80 per cent completed.

"I am of the opinion that local engineers and contractors should learn from the

project. Maybe similar projects can be built in other places in Malaysia as well as other countries," he told reporters after visiting the project in Bukit Nanas this afternoon.

He was accompanied by several Cabinet Ministers, including Education Minister Datuk Amar Sulaiman Daud, National Unity and Social Development Minister Datuk Napsiah Omar, Law Minister Datuk Syed Hamid Albar, Primary Industries Minister Datuk Seri Dr Lim Keng Yaik, Human Resources Minister Datuk Lim Ah Lek and Information Minister Datuk Mohamed Rahmat.

Dr Mahathir said he was satisfied with the progress of the project. The contrac-

tor for the project is Wayss and Freytag (M) Sdn Bhd, whose parent is a German company.

He was briefed on the progress of the project by the company's technical director, Martin Heimerdinger.

Dr Mahathir said the project was expected to be completed on schedule at the end of next year.

Asked by a foreign journalist to comment on a Reuter report that Malaysia had banned Steven Spielberg's Holocaust epic *Schindler's List*, Dr Mahathir said he was not aware of the ban but added that it was the country's right to ban any movie.

Dr Mahathir added that he had not seen the movie.

Asked about the allega-

tion by the Los Angeles-based Simon Wiesenthal Centre in the report that the ban was in keeping with the Prime Minister's longstanding anti-Semitic stand, Dr Mahathir said he was not anti-Semitic but was anti-Zionist.

"I am not anti-Jew and I am not anti-Semitic," he said, adding that the Arabs were Semites.

He said it was unfair to label him as such which the Western organisations liked to do.

The report stated that the distributors of the movie, which depicted a German war profiteer who saved hundreds of Polish Jews from the Nazis, had appealed against the ban.

report that seven industrialised countries had opposed the proposed ban on the export of toxic waste to developing countries, Dr Mahathir said such an attitude should not be adopted by civilised nations.

"Toxic waste should not be exported to poor countries," he said.

Dr Mahathir said industrialised countries should not export toxic waste but dump the waste in their own countries or find ways of reducing it.

A foreign news report stated that Greenpeace had alleged that Germany, Holland, the United States, Australia, Canada, Britain and Japan had objected to the ban on the export of toxic wa-