

26 APR 1996

Mohamed-Tower

DR MAHATHIR TO OPEN KUALA LUMPUR TOWER IN SEPTEMBER

KUALA LUMPUR, April 26 (Bernama) -- The Kuala Lumpur Tower, which is in the final stage of construction, will be opened in the first week of September, as part of the the National Day celebration.

Information Minister Datuk Mohamed Rahmat said today the RM270 million tower, constructed using the Build, Operate and Transfer System, would be opened by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

Civil work on the tower had been completed while the engineering aspect was being tested, he told reporters after a one-hour tour of the building, here.

The application for the tower's certificate of fitness had been submitted to the Kuala Lumpur City Hall and if approved it would be operational from July, he said.

The installation of telecommunication cables had also been completed, Mohamed, who is also the Kuala Lumpur Tower Construction Committee chairman, said.

Mohamed also said there was a high possibility that Radio Televisyen Malaysia (RTM) would broadcast its proposed third television channel for sports programmes from the tower at the end of this year or in early 1997.

Asked on the fees to be charged on the members of public who visit the tower, he said it would be affordable to all.

"We want as many Malaysians as possible to visit the 421-metre structure and personally view our city's rapid development," he said.

On a clear day, the Melaka straits could be seen from the tower's viewing floor and this would definitely attract the interest of Malaysians, he said.

He said the tower's site had been leased to Syarikat Menara Kuala Lumpur Bhd, which would be in charge of the building for 15 years.

Its major tenants are RTM and Syarikat Telekom Malaysia Bhd. -- BERNAMA
SJA ZUL JK