

10 AUG 1996

FOMCA WELCOMES PM'S STATEMENT THAT TNB SHOULD COMPENSATE

KUALA LUMPUR, Aug 10 (Bernama) -- The Federation of Malaysian Consumer Associations (Fomca) today welcomed Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad's statement that Tenaga Nasional Berhad (TNB) should compensate those who suffered losses as a result of the July 3 peninsula-wide blackout.

Fomca legal adviser Jacob George said in a statement it is important that TNB be made to settle all claims promptly since it made a pre-tax profit of RM1.6 billion last year.

"There is no reason for them to delay any form of compensation," he said.

George said drastic steps needed to be taken to revamp TNB's administration and curtail its monopoly on power distribution.

"Millions of consumers are irritated by the continued incompetence, shoddy and deplorable state of affairs in TNB and the Energy, Telecommunications and Post Ministry.

"Now is the time to set up a parallel grid and more involvement should be given to the Independent Power Producers," he said. -- BERNAMA

WNZ CTL