

1. KUALA LUMPUR: More than 130,000 posts in the civil service, mostly in the professional and technical fields are still vacant, Director-General of Sivil Service Department, Datuk Mazlan Ahmad said. The country's civil service has 1.07 million posts in various categories and only 870,000 were filled. The vacant posts are mostly doctors, engineers, architects and pilots. Lead story

2. KUALA LUMPUR: The new Menteri Besar of Selangor is expected to be named today. Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim will have an audience with the Sultan of Selangor at the Green Lodge, the Sultan's residence in Shah Alam, at 10 am today to get his consent for the appointment of the Menteri Besar. Page 1

3. BLANTYRE (Malawi): Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad arrived here yesterday for a two-day official visit to the Republic of Malawi to enhance bilateral relations between the two countries in various fields especially in trade. Page 1

4. SUBANG: The Royal Malaysian Police is to set up a computer crime unit and is looking for suitable candidates as uniformed personnel, Deputy Home Minister Datuk Seri Megat Junid Megat Ayob said.. He said the setting up of the unit, in keeping up with the rapid growth of Information Technology (IT), was being looked into to ensure it could adequately deal with computer crimes in terms of law enforcement and prosecution. Page 1

5. SUBANG: The enforcement of the new electric tariff starting yesterday will not effect the country's investment growth, Energy, telecommunications and Post minister, Datuk Leo Moggie said. He said the increment only involved between 0.1 and 2.0 percent of total production costs. Page 2

6. KOK LANAS: The action of the Singaporean media in publishing negative reports on crimes in Johor thus portraying the state unsafe to visit is actually influenced by the feeling of jealousy with the peace and development enjoyed by Malaysia, Umno secretary-general Datuk Sabbaruddin Chik said. Page 2

7. IPOH: Malays must be well-prepared in all fields to face the advent of a meritocratic society by the year 2020 to ensure they don't lag behind other races, Umno Youth leader Datuk Ahmad Zahid Hamidi said. To face the meritocracy era, they must be forthcoming in grabbing the opportunities available to pursue tertiary education, he said. Page 4

8. KOTA BHARU: Abim has asked the government and Asean members to conduct a thorough study before accept Mynmar as a new member of the association, it president, Dr Muhammad Nur Manuty said. Page 5

9. PETALING JAYA: The mass entry of foreign workers into this country has been identified as the main cause of the increase of social problems especially those involving women, MIC President, Datuk Seri S Samy Vellu. Page 7

10. PETALING JAYA: Trade unions should play a role in social and national development so that it can become a meaningful institution, said Human Resources Minister Datuk Lim Ah Lek. He said unions should give full support to development programmes and community projects launched by the government from time to time. Page 13

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