

MALAYSIA NANBAN HIGHLIGHTS: MONDAY, MAY 5  
05 MAY 1997

1. KUALA LUMPUR: The long-awaited, 35-year old dream of the Malaysian Tamil Writers' Association was realised when they officially stepped into their own building in Gombak. MIC deputy president Datuk Subramaniam officially opened the RM275,000-building in a colourful ceremony yesterday. Page 1. Lead story

2. CABORONE (Botswana): Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said he has no plans yet to reshuffle the cabinet following the resignation of Datuk Abu Hassan from the Cabinet to fill the post of Selangor Menteri Besar. Page 1

3. GRIK: Deputy Home Minister Datuk Seri Megat Junid said inmates of rehabilitation centres suspected of drug trafficking should be transferred to other centres immediately. The Commandants looking after the inmates must observe carefully and initiate the transfers to avoid further problems, he said. Page 1

4. TELUK INTAN: MCA secretary-general Datuk Ting Chew Peh said the party will work hard for the victory of Gerakan candidate Dr Chee See Yoke in the Teluk Intan by-election. The 18 MCA branches in Teluk Intan together with the state and national leaders and supporters will strive hard for a majority victory for the BN candidate, he said. Page 2

5. TAIPING: Works Minister Datuk Seri Samy Vellu said the government will consult and get experts' advice on the construction of the proposed alternative route to link the three hill resorts in Peninsular Malaysia. Construction works would begin before December this year, if everything goes on well, he said. Page 2

6. KUALA LUMPUR: Defence Minister Datuk Syed Hamid Albar said his ministry has submitted a detailed report on the detention of seven Filipino fishermen by the Royal Malaysian Navy for encroachment, off Pulau Banggi to the Home Ministry. He said the Foreign Ministry will deal the matter with the Philippines government. Page 4

7. ALOR STAT: Tenaga Nasional Berhad chairman Datuk Dr Ahmad Tajuddin Ali said the 8 per cent electricity tariff increase will not affect the nation's competitiveness and investments. He dismissed assertions by Federation of Malaysian Manufacturers and consumer groups that the increase will affect nation's competitiveness. Page 6

8. TAIPING: Works Minister Datuk Seri Samy Vellu urged the Non-governmental Organisations (NGOs) to stop dictating the government on what to do. The government appreciated their views on the environment but they should not teach the government how to carry out its job, he said. Page 10

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05/05/97 10-37MST

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