

THE STAR HIGHLIGHTS

02 JAN 97

1. SEGAMAT: The Government will study the possibility of replacing the 140 level crossings in the country with flyovers or overhead bridges. - Front-page lead story

2. PETALING JAYA: Malaysian ambassador Ahmad Mokhtar Selat, appearing unshaken and confident after 11 days of captivity by Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement rebels, says he will return to Lima, Peru. - Page 1

3. KUALA TERENGGANU: The Government will absorb Perwaja Steel Group's RM2.9 billion debt as it wants Maju Holdings Sdn Bhd to manage the group on a clean slate said Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad. - Page 2

4. KUALA LUMPUR: Members of the Indian People's Front (IPF) may soon gain associate membership in the People's Progressive Party (PPP) in what is seen as a backdoor way for the former to come under the wing of the Barisan Nasional. - page 2

5. MELBOURNE: An incident in which a Malaysian student was reportedly abused here has not damaged the country's relations with Australia, says Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad. - Page 3 - more

6. KUALA LUMPUR: Motorists who travel outstation frequently are feeling the pinch of the new toll charges for the North-South Expressway which were implemented yesterday. - Page 3

7. KUALA LUMPUR: The National Registration and immigration Departments in the Klang Valley will be open for 11 hours from today. - Page 3

8. PETALING JAYA: The Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs Ministry will monitor the progress of self-service payment at petrol stations for six months. - Page 4

9. KENINGAU: Studies on the overall climatic conditions will be undertaken to ascertain the causes of last week's devastating floods which killed more than 173 people. - Page 4

10. KUALA LUMPUR: Deputy Home Minister Datuk Ong Ka Ting has commended the efforts of Immigration Department staff throughout the country in handling the registration exercise to legalise illegal foreign workers. - page 6 - more

11. SINGAPORE: Singapore ended its general election campaign yesterday with law suits flying and the already victorious People's Action Party (PAP) directing all its guns on one opposition candidate. - page 17

12. HEBRON: An Israeli soldier firing indiscriminately wounded seven Arabs in a market here yesterday in an attempt to sabotage the imminent handover of the West Bank town to Palestinian rule. - Page 19

13. HONG KONG: China's President Jiang Zemin was alerted after paramount leader Deng Xiaoping briefly lapsed into unconsciousness this week, the South China Morning Post reported yesterday. - page 19

14. TAIPEI: Taiwanese authorities yesterday moved to head off possible political and economic crises by urging Governor James Soong to withdraw his resignation. - page 19

15. NEW DELHI: A massive power shutdown yesterday brought trains to a halt and disrupted city life across India's crowded north, officials said. - Page 20

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