

19 OCT 1998

Parliament-Budget

BUDGET SESSION TO START FROM TOMORROW

KUALA LUMPUR, Oct 19 (Bernama) -- The Dewan Rakyat will start its budget session for eight weeks from Oct 20 to Dec 10 while the Dewan Negara for two weeks from Dec 7 to 17.

The Dewan Rakyat will be sitting from 10am to 5.30pm with one and half hour break from 1pm in accordance with amendments made to the Standing Order last July.

Prior to that, the sitting was held from 2.30pm to 6.20pm from Monday to Thursday.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad who is also First Finance Minister is expected to table the Budget 1999 on Friday, Oct 23.

On Oct 15, Dr Mahathir chaired a pre-council meeting attended by Barisan Nasional (BN) representatives in the Dewan Rakyat and Dewan Negara at the Parliament building.

There will be a change in the sitting arrangement as Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim, the MP for Permatang Pauh, is no longer a government backbencher.

His seat will be moved from Section A to Section F to join the opposition and independent Members of Parliament.

Anwar was sacked as deputy prime minister on Sept 2 and expelled from Umno a day later.

Anwar who is facing 10 charges of corruption and sodomy is being detained in Sungai Buloh prison pending trial on Nov 2.

--BERNAMA

RAZ ABG