

CHINA PRESS HIGHLIGHTS, JAN 13, 1998, TUESDAY
13 JANUARY 1998

1. KUALA LUMPUR: The Kuala Lumpur Stock Exchange is taking stock of the financial position of stockbroking firms. Its new executive chairman Mohd. Azlan Hashim warns KLSE will not hesitate to close down any firm should it face financial crisis. Lead story. page 1.

2. KUALA LUMPUR: Trading on Renong and United Engineers Malaysia Bhd. counters was suspended shortly after lifting of the suspension. Trading on the two counters will resume on Wednesday. page 1.

3. KUALA LUMPUR: Share prices take a dip following the fall in regional bourses. The Composite Index dropped 14.03 points to close at 477.57. page 1.

4. KUALA LUMPUR: Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim who is Finance Minister denies a report that Malaysians have withdrawn RM20 billion from banks and financial institutions and deposited the money in foreign banks. It is just a rumour. page 3.

5. KUALA LUMPUR: Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr. Mahathir Mohamad says Malaysia is capable of overcoming the current economic turmoil because of its economic and political stability. No doubt bruised, the government can effectively handle the problems. page 3. --more

6. KUALA LUMPUR: Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr. Mahathir Mohamad says the government has to repatriate one million foreign workers back to their countries following the economic downturn. Malaysia is now equally poor as its neighbours. It cannot afford to accommodate two million foreign workers any more. page 3.

7. KUALA LUMPUR: Some packed, canned and other foodstuffs will be required to display ceiling price before the end of the year. Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs Minister Datuk Seri Megat Junid Megat Ayob says traders will not be allowed to sell above the ceiling price. page 4.

8. KUALA LUMPUR: The sugar refineries in Perlis and Kedah produce 11,000 tonnes of sugar a year, a report in China Press says. Malaysia requires about 1.16 million tonnes of sugar yearly. page 4.

9. KUALA LUMPUR: About 60,000 foreign workers in the construction industry will be redirected to the plantation sector. A source from Human Resources Ministry says most of the construction workers are Indonesians and they are deemed suitable for plantation work. page 7.

10. KUALA LUMPUR: Asian bourses tumble across the board following the plunge in Dow Jones last week. Hang Seng in Hong Kong plunged 773.58 points to close at 8121.06. The Straits Times Industrials Index in Singapore also dropped 102.88 points to 1073.47. page 14. --Bernama

13/01/98 11-13MST

bns