

08 FEB 1998

INFORMATION MINISTRY TO START LOYALTY FUND FOR STAFF

JOHOR BAHRU, Feb 8 (Bernama) -- The Information Ministry will launch a National Loyalty Fund tomorrow to encourage its officers and staff to save through voluntary contributions.

Minister Datuk Seri Mohamed Rahmat said the contributions, to be made monthly and according to the means of the staff, was in response to the government's call to the people to save.

"(Datuk Seri) Dr Mahathir (Mohamad) has called on all the communities to save. We will start with officers and staff of the ministry and agencies under it," he told reporters, here, yesterday.

He said the ministry did not propose to make salary deductions for the purpose because the contributions were on a voluntary basis.

He also said that the ministry was discussing with the Treasury to start a trust account so that the fund was recognised by the government.

This was to ensure that there was no abuse and the ministry hoped the money from the fund could be invested in the stock market, he added.

Mohamed said the ministry would also conduct a nationwide campaign to impress on the people the importance of saving for their wellbeing. --

BERNAMA

MKO JK