

10 APR 1998

MAHATHIR:NEAC ALLOWS 85 PER CENT LOAN FOR RM40,000 CAR

KUALA LUMPUR, April 10 (Bernama) -- The National Economic Action Council (NEAC) which met today has agreed to allow car loan up to 85 per cent for a unit costing RM40,000 and below as compared 70 per cent presently, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said tonight.

However, he said, the quantum allowed by banks and financial institutions for vehicle loans this year remained at RM15 billion.

Dr Mahathir disclosed this at a press conference after chairing an Umno Supreme Council meeting at the Putra World Trade Centre here.

He had earlier in the day chaired the NEAC's second meeting.

Dr Mahathir said the NEAC also agreed to allow banks and financial institutions to extend loans for the purchase of homes costing RM150,000 and below from already completed projects or those under construction.

Meanwhile, he said, the Foreign Investment Committee (FIC) would determine which of the homes costing RM250,000 and above could be bought by foreigners.

This means foreigners intending to buy such types of houses need no longer seek the FIC's permission.

However, they would have to ascertain that the homes they proposed to acquire are those developed under projects approved by the FIC, the prime minister added. -- BERNAMA

AH MAI rn