

1. BRUSSELS: International Monetary Fund executive director Michel Camdessus believes the current Asian economic situation is stabilising. However, it may take some time to recover. He is confident South Korea can overcome the turmoil. Page 1. Lead story

2. KUALA LUMPUR: The National Economic Advisory Council is to meet today. Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr. Mahathir Mohd. says the council will study the economic problems including requests for price hike by traders. Page 1

3. MELAKA: More than 40 stalls in a shopping complex were destroyed in a fire. Total losses were estimated at six million ringgit. Page 1

4. KUALA LUMPUR: The ringgit is dragged down by the fall of the rupiah which dropped to 11,550 to a US dollar. The ringgit ended lower against the dollar at RM4.4500. Page 1

5. JOHORE BAHRU: All Customs and Immigration counters at six entry points will be open from January 23 to February 2 to facilitate the influx of Singaporeans during the coming festivals. Some 25,000 cars are expected to enter Malaysia daily during that period. Page 2

6. KUANTAN: More people are seeking medical treatment at government hospitals following the economic slowdown. Health Minister Datuk Chua Jui Meng says government hospitals have been directed to take necessary steps to meet the needs. Page 3

7. KOTA KINABALU: Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim says foreign investors begin to show confidence in the country following various measures taken to curb the ringgit's slide at foreign exchange markets. He will announce several foreign investment projects soon. Page 4

8. PETALING JAYA: The only son of a family killed his mother, reportedly against his friendship with a girl. It is understood, he also tried to strangle his father who happened to return home. The 18-year old has surrendered to the police. Page 8

9. KUALA LUMPUR: MCA will hold its annual delegates' meeting on May 30. The Youth and Wanita movements will hold their meetings one day earlier. Page 8

10. BEIJING: China has hit out at the US-Japan Defence Guidelines. Xin Wah News Agency says the pact is a US-Japan conspiracy in Asia to contain China. Page 15

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