

1. KLANG: Three teachers, two from government secondary schools and the other from a tuition centre, were yesterday charged under the Official Secrets Act in connection with the leakage of the Sijil Pelajaran Malaysia 1997 question papers. page 1;

2. KUALA LUMPUR: The American International Group Inc (AIG) will set up a new US\$1.5 billion (RM6.9 billion) infrastructure fund to be used for investments in various projects in the region. page 1;

3. ALOR STAR: The 40-ha Perik vegetable farm, one of Kedah's biggest, has opened its door to farmers who want to learn modern agriculture and organic farming. page 1;

4. KUALA LUMPUR: Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad yesterday held a one-hour discussion with the United States Congress Finance Committee chairman William Roth on co-operation between Malaysia and the US to overcome the current economic problem in Southeast Asia. page 2;

5. KUALA LUMPUR: The Fourth Pacific Dialogue ended yesterday with participants, prominent figures from the US among them, expressing optimism that economies in the region would recover from their current problems. page 2; -- more

6. KUALA LUMPUR: Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim said there is a need for Japan and the United States to step up their role in restoring investors' confidence in Asian economies. page 2;

7. KUALA LUMPUR: Former US Secretary of State Dr Henry Kissinger said yesterday that he was strongly in favour of what the US was attempting to do to help resolve the economic problems in Asia, adding that the US should help stabilise the situation. page 2;

8. KUALA LUMPUR: Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim said the United States has offered greater cooperation to Malaysia in the area of trade to help regain investors' confidence. page 4;

9. KUALA LUMPUR: Foreign Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi and his Thai counterpart, Surin Pitsuwan, will meet soon to discuss ways of increasing bilateral co-operation especially in matters affecting both countries due to the present regional economic problem. page 4;

10. IPOH: Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs Ministry enforcement officials yesterday turned salesmen when they sold 2.4 tonnes of sugar direct to consumers. page 6; -- more

11. KUALA LUMPUR: A company will be set up in March to promote multimedia technology in the higher education system by pooling the resources of the country's 11 public universities. page 7;

12. KLANG: Almost 50 per cent of posts in the pharmaceutical division of the Health Ministry have not been filled due to the shortage of pharmacists. page 8;

13. KUALA LUMPUR: As thousands of Hindus celebrate "Ponggal" or the Harvest festival today (Wednesday), MIC president Datuk Seri S. Samy Vellu has called on the Indian community to fight against external forces out to destroy the people's unity. page 8;

18. KLANG: A study carried out by the Health Ministry two years ago and subsequent monitoring of the development in mobile phone technology show that such devices do not pose any threat to the user's health. page 8;

-- Bernama

bns