

SIN CHEW JIT POH HIGHLIGHTS: WEDNESDAY, JAN. 14  
14 JANUARY 1998

1. KUALA LUMPUR: Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim warns that if no concret steps are taken to revive the Asian economies, the current economic crisis may spread and affect the whole world's economies. He says the World Bank is the source for the crisis because many Asian countries are contented following the bank's "Asian miracle" theory. Page 1. Lead story

2. KUALA LUMPUR: Bourses in the region rallied to the surge in Dow Jones which closed 66.76 points higher. The Composite Index of the Kuala Lumpur Stock Exchange gained 26.32 points to 503.89. Page 1

3. KUALA LUMPUR: Education Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak is to announce soon detailed plans to help Malaysians students who have been forced to return home following the economic downturn, to continue their studies in local public and private universities. He says there is a need for private universities to increase their intake to accommodate these students. Page 1

4. KLANG: Three teachers involved in the leakage of SPM examination papers have been charged under the Official Secret Act. They face a total of 10 charges. Hearing has been fixed on February 11. Page 2

5. BANGI: Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr. Mahathir Mohamad urges the people to seize the opportunities to invest in local companies to help speed up economic recovery. It is an opportune time for them to buy shares in the plantation industry. Page 3

6. KUALA LUMPUR: US Deputy Treasury Secretary Lawrence Summers says Washington and Malaysia agree that the regional economic crisis can be overcome through stern and transparent policy to regain market confidence. He says Malaysia has adopted some major steps, particularly in financial aspect to overcome the turmoil. Page 3

7. SEREMBAN: Deputy Energy, Telecommunications and Posts Minister Datuk Chan Kong Choy says the government has decided to withdraw the 10 percent service tax and 5 percent sales tax on hotels in order to promote domestic tourism. This is to prevent outflow of the ringgit. Page 4

8. PETALING JAYA: Plus chairman Tan Sri Raden Sunarno says PLUS may encounter difficulty in repaying its loan totalling RM5.9 billion if it is not allowed to hike toll rates. He hopes the government will be able to work out a win-win formula. Page 5

9. KOTA KINABALU: Businessmen from Peninsular Malaysia and Sarawak in Sabah are required to apply for work permit from January 1. A directive from the Chief Minister's office says they must obtain the work permit from the local authorities when renewing their licences. Page 7

10. KUANTAN: Flour manufacturers are expected to temporarily stop operations after the coming festive seasons if the ringgit's exchange rate against the US dollar continues to slide. They hope the government will allow a price hike after the festivals due to higher cost of maize. Page 8

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