

SIN CHEW JIT POH HIGHLIGHT
17 MARCH 1998

1. KUALA LUMPUR: Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad says action will be taken against offenders if investigations show that loans given out by Sime Bank did not follow the procedure or there was mismanagement. If need be, the government will set up a special committee to investigate the huge losses incurred by the bank. Page 1. Lead story

2. KUALA LUMPUR: Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim says the earlier forecast growth rate of between 4 to 5 percent is no more realistic in view of the present economic situation. It has to be lowered following the economic crisis which hit the region. Page 1

3. KUALA LUMPUR: Trading on the Kuala Lumpur Stock Exchange was sluggish with the Composite Index dropping 4.55 points to close at 703.61. The ringgit ended steadier at RM3.8000 to a US dollar following the gain by Thai baht. Page 1

4. PETALING JAYA: Can cars be stolen right under the nose of security guards? Three four-wheel drive vehicles were stolen from a car park in a shopping complex in Serdang within a few hours yesterday. Six Mercedes E280 were also reported stolen from a service centre on March 13. Page 2

5. KUALA LUMPUR: Some syndicates are believed to have helped illegal Bangladeshi immigrants remit their money back to Bangladesh. Each of the syndicates, believed operated by Bangladeshis, is believed to have handed at least RM50,000 a week through the contacts in neighbouring countries to be brought back to Bangladesh. Page 2

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