

28 JUL 1998

SINGAPORE WILL RESPECT MALAYSIA'S DECISION, SAYS GHANI

JOHOR BAHRU, July 28 (Bernama) -- Menteri Besar Datuk Abdul Ghani Othman said today he is confident that Singapore will respect Malaysia's decision not to shift its Customs, Immigration and Quarantine (CIQ) checkpoint from Tanjung Pagar to Woodlands.

He said that the existing arrangements should be maintained and the people of both countries could continue to benefit from the railway service.

"We fully support the decision of the federal government and the understanding long established between the two countries," he told reporters after receiving business zakat collection from Bank Rakyat, here.

He was commenting on the statement by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad in Namibia yesterday that Malaysia will not shift its CIQ facilities from Tanjung Pagar to Woodlands.

Last month, Singapore announced its decision to move its CIQ facilities from Tanjung Pagar to Woodlands on Aug 1 and this affected the Malaysian CIQ checkpoint.

Earlier, Abdul Ghani said that the RM86,138.48 business zakat collection would be channelled to religious schools in the state for repair and extension purposes.

-- BERNAMA

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