

SUN NEWSPAPER HIGHLIGHTS  
23 APRIL 1998

1. KUALA LUMPUR: While the public fumes over the haze, government agencies charged with acting against open burning are still taking things easy, according to Science, Technology and Environment Minister Datuk Law Hieng Ding. Lead story
2. SONGKHLA: Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad Wednesday called on countries that have disputes over overlapping territories to solve them through joint development of such areas. Page 2
3. KUALA LUMPUR: French defence companies are seeking a foothold in the country and make it as a gateway to the defence establishments in Asia. Page 2
4. KUALA LUMPUR: The impact of the drought on catchment areas and dams is being studied by water management company Puncak Niaga (M) Sdn Bhd as one of its long-term measures to safeguard against future shortage. Page 4
5. KUALA LUMPUR: Education Director-General Datuk Matnor Daim has opted to retire on Monday, six months ahead of his compulsory retirement. Page 7
6. KUALA LUMPUR: The inflation rate in the first three months of this year reached 4.3 per cent compared to 3.1 per cent the same period last year, says Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim. Page 8
7. KUALA LUMPUR: The Dewan Rakyat approved an allocation of RM40 million as early payment to Ekran Bhd following the federal government takeover of the Bakun Hydro Electric Project after the project was deferred. Page 8
8. KUALA LUMPUR: Garment firm MCL Corporation Bhd was granted an injunction by the High Court Wednesday to stop Multi-Purpose Bank Bhd (formerly known as Malaysian French Bank Bhd) from filing a winding up petition over the failure of the company's subsidiary to settle its debts amounting to over RM5 million. Page 13
9. KUALA LUMPUR: Rashid Hussain Bhd will issue RM1 billion worth of Tier-1 Irredeemable Non-Cumulative Preference shares to Phileo Allied Bhd, in a deal that will partly fund the former's Sime Bank Bhd buy-out plan. Page 1 (Business);
10. KUALA LUMPUR: For the first time in a decade, property transactions fell in the first quarter of this year, with the decline hitting double digit territory in percentage terms. Page 1
11. WASHINGTON: Transparency in the financial system, although a necessary condition, is not a cure-all for the region's financial crises, Assistant Governor of Bank Negara, Datuk Dr Zeti Akhtar Aziz, told a conference organised by the International Monetary Fund here on Tuesday. Page 18 (Business);
12. PETALING JAYA: The Entrepreneur Development Ministry will formulate strategies to assist entrepreneurs badly affected by the economic downturn after it receives the feedback study currently conducted by Universiti Malaya. Page 18
13. KUALA LUMPUR: Malaysian property market transactions in 1997 grew at its slowest pace in 10 years, according to the Valuation and Property Services Department's report on the Malaysian House Price Index for July-December 1997. Page 19
14. HONIARA: The Solomon islands will nationalise its logging industry long dominated by Malaysian companies, Forest Minister Hilda Kari told parliament Wednesday. Page 20
15. KUALA LUMPUR: Analysts and fund managers facing difficulty searching for resilient companies in the current bearish phase of the KLSE, may now have to turn to second liners to stay afloat. Page 20

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