

10 DEC 1999
PM-DAIM
PM ON RUMOURS ON DAIM

PUTRAJAYA, Dec 10 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said Finance Minister Tun Daim Zainuddin did not give any undertaking to resign when commenting on rumours that the latter intended to step down from the government.

"Of course, none of the ministers can give an undertaking to serve for a full term because I may decide to terminate them," he told reporters after announcing the new Cabinet line-up.

On the stockmarket's expectations that Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah may be appointed to a Cabinet position, the prime minister said, "Well, we have taken into consideration various criteria in the appointment of ministers and if a person does not fit in with the criteria, of course we cannot appoint him no matter who he is."

Referring to the 2000 Budget on Dec 20, Dr Mahathir said in accordance with the procedures, "there will be no debate." -- BERNAMA

RIZ SHY