

# Authorities' still compiling information on Petwaja

SUN 20.9.2000

**KOTA KINABALU, Tues:**  
The government is still trying to get information on Perwaja Steel Sdn Bhd's payment to three foreign parties now deposited in Swiss bank accounts.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said it would be quite difficult to get the information as the money had already been taken out of the country.

"It is not easy to get information once money is brought out . . . some Malaysian individuals know about it but they are living abroad. We have not been able to meet with them," he said at a press conference here today at the end of his two-day visit to Sabah.

He was responding to questions on last Thursday's news report of Anti-Corruption Agency (ACA) Director-General **Datuk Ahmad Zaki Husin** confirming that RM76.4 million of Perwaja's money had been traced to a Swiss bank account.

According to him, the money had been mysteriously moved from Perwaja to a company in Hongkong and from there to two Japanese individuals and a company in Japan.

It was later found deposited **into** an account of a **consultancy** firm in Switzerland registered in British Virgin Islands.

The prime minister said the government was leaving **the matter to the ACA.**