

Dr M: EPF cut contributes to other measures

Nst 13 APR 2001

KUALA LUMPUR, Thurs. — Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad today said the two per cent reduction in employees' contribution to the Employees' Provident Fund would contribute to other measures taken to stimulate the economy.

"Everything contributes, I do not know how much it will stimulate.

"It is believed it will be quite a plus for the retail trade. It may be small but it contributes to the other measures that we have taken," he told reporters after the launch of *Silverfil*, an amalgam or "mixture" with no free mercury for use in tooth filling, at the Technology Park Malaysia here.

Dr Mahathir was asked whether the reduction in employees' contribution could contribute to stimulating the economy given the uncertainty in the stock market.

On March 27, the Government announced a temporary reduction in employees' contribution to the EPF by two per cent from 11 per cent. It is for a period of one year effective April 1.