

17 FEB 2001

PM-AZIZAN

PM HAILS APPOINTMENT OF AZIZAN AS MALAYSIA AIRLINES CHAIRMAN

KUALA LUMPUR, Feb 17 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad has described the appointment of Tan Sri Azizan Zainul Abidin as non-executive chairman of Malaysia Airlines as a good choice.

Dr Mahathir, when asked to comment on Azizan's appointment, felt that it would not be burdensome he was only a non-executive chairman.

Azizan's appointment was announced by the finance ministry on Feb 14 together with that Datuk Md Nor bin Md Yusof, who has been appointed the national carrier's new managing director.

Asked if the appointment of Azizan, who is also chairman of Petronas and president of Putrajaya Corporation, meant that there were no other capable persons around for the position at Malaysia Airlines, Dr Mahathir said the appointment was not a permanent and lifetime one.

"A capable person could possibly emerge in the future and we will have to wait," the prime minister told reporters after launching a gathering on information and communications technology literacy for the k-economy here.

Dr Mahathir said he was quite sure that Azizan, who had made Petronas function well, would do just the same at Malaysia Airlines.

The prime minister also felt that Azizan would be able to work together with Md Nor as a team.

Both Azizan and Md Nor were appointed to their positions from Feb 15, 2001.

-- BERNAMA

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