

UTUSAN MALAYSIA HIGHLIGHTS
30 AUGUST 2002

1. KUALA LUMPUR: The Health Ministry will call on all owners of private hospitals in the country to determine on the ceiling price for surgery and other medical expenses which at present are exorbitant. Lead story page 1

2. PORT DICKSON: Malaysians are encouraged to eat bananas daily to reduce the risk of stroke by 50 per cent, according to Associate Professor Dr. Rofina Yasmin of the Institute of Biological Sciences, Universiti Malaya. page 1

KUALA LUMPUR: Radio and Television Malaysia will broadcast video clip of speeches by Kelantan Mentri Besar Datuk Nik Abdul Aziz Nik Mat who associated Allah, the Almighty, with a thug. page 1

4. KUALA LUMPUR: The Terengganu Government's suit against Petronas and the Federal Government over the payment of petroleum royalties will go to full trial, the High Court ruled Thursday. Judge Datuk Arifin Zakaria, now Court of Appeal judge, said this after dismissing with costs Petronas'a application to determine the case on certain preliminary legal issues. page 1

5. PUTRAJAYA: Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr. Mahathir Mohamad has urged the people to put aside their racial and religious differences and celebrate National Day as Malaysians. He said by putting aside the differences, the people would gradually be able to create a Bangsa Malaysia which would ensure unity and peace. page 2

6. BUTTERWORTH: Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi says the Employees Provident Fund must act against dishonest officers in the event of any misappropriation. page 2

7. BUTTERWORTH: The Employees' Provident fund has collected about RM200 billion as of June 2002 and invested the fund in various industrial sectors. page 2

8. PUTRAJAYA: Malaysia is prepared to investigate claims by any quarters over alleged ill-treatment of Filipino illegal immigrants at temporary holding centres in Sabah, Foreign Minister Datuk Seri Syed Hamid Albar says. page 4

9. KUALA LUMPUR: The Ministry of National Unity and Social Development cannot bear all the cost of treating chronic cases because of certain policy, says its minister Datuk Dr. Siti Zaharah Sulaiman. page 8

10. KUALA LUMPUR: A college has issued 46 passes for its students from China but only 26 of them were actually studying while the others were full-time restaurant and pub workers or were unaccounted for. The Private Education Department of the Education Ministry (JPS) discovered this during a surprise check conducted on private colleges.

JPS deputy director-general Datuk Hassan Hashim said Kolej Utama's Ipoh and Johor Bahru branches will have their permits to take in foreign students revoked for abusing the student passes. page 13

--BERNAMA