

TWO-THIRDS MAJORITY REQUIRED

# PM: PSC CAN'T FUNCTION LEGALLY

Dr M to decide on major posts pending changes to Federal Constitution

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**T**HE current Parliamentary Select Committee (PSC) set up for major public appointments cannot function legally.

Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad said this was because some of the provisions in the Federal Constitution involving the PSC needed to be changed.

"We don't have a PSC. We intend to have a PSC, but to do that we need to change some provisions in the (Federal) Constitution."

He said the government intended to have the PSC, but it did not have the two-thirds majority to change the Constitution.

Dr Mahathir said this in response to a question on whether the pending appointment of Human Rights Commission of Malaysia (Suhakam) chairman would go through the PSC.

On April 16, Tan Sri Razali Ismail resigned as Suhakam chairman, two weeks before the end of his tenure.

Jerald Joseph is currently the



Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad speaking at a press conference after chairing the third meeting of the Economic Action Council in Putrajaya yesterday. With him are Economic Affairs Minister Datuk Seri Azmin Ali (left) and Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs Minister Datuk Seri Saifuddin Nasution Ismail. PIC BY MOHD FADLI

acting chairman. "So at the moment, we are back to the old practice of making appointments — that is the prime minister decides.

"The others can give their views but it is the prime minister who will decide," he said at a press conference after chairing the third meeting of the Eco-

nomic Action Council here yesterday. Present were Economic Affairs Minister Datuk Seri Azmin Ali, Domestic Trade and Con-

sumer Affairs Minister Datuk Seri Saifuddin Nasution Ismail and Agriculture and Agro-based Industry Minister Datuk Saifuddin Ayub.