

N108 (F)
MAHATHIR-EDUCATION

76 (8)
KUALA LUMPUR, AUG. 19 (BERNAMA) -- DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMED HAS STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE OF A SYSTEMATIC APPROACH IN HIGHER EDUCATION IN THE COUNTRY TO ACHIEVE MAXIMUM RESULTS.

HE SAID AS A DEVELOPING NATION WITH SCARCE RESOURCES BOTH IN TERMS OF FUNDS AND PERSONNEL, MALAYSIA COULD NOT AFFORD TO ADOPT A LAISSEZ-FAIRE APPROACH.

DELIVERING THE SECOND TUN (DR.) ISMAIL ORATION ON CO-ORDINATION IN HIGHER EDUCATION HERE TODAY HE SAID PLANNING IN THE COUNTRY MUST BE MORE RIGID AND TARGET ORIENTED.

+PLANS ARE NO GOOD IF THEY ARE NOT CAREFULLY IMPLEMENTED. MISTAKES WILL OCCUR AND CAN BE COMPOUNDED IF THE PLANS ARE WRONG IN THE FIRST PLACE.+

BUT A SYSTEMATIC APPROACH WAS ALWAYS FAR BETTER THAN A LAISSEZ-FAIRE APPROACH, DR. MAHATHIR ADDED. --BERNAMA MORE 1649/BY

££

N109 (F)
MAHATHIR -EDUCATION 2 KUALA LUMPUR

DR. MAHATHIR, WHO IS ALSO EDUCATION MINISTER, SAID THAT IN MALAYSIA INDEPENDENT POLICIES BY FIERCELY INDEPENDENT AUTHORITIES HAD NO PLACE.

WITH THE LIMITED MANPOWER RESOURCES, ONLY CENTRALISATION COULD ACHIEVE MAXIMUM RESULT.

+ A UNIVERSITIES GRANTS COMMISSION HAS THEREFORE NO PLACE IN THE CONTEXT OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN THIS COUNTRY.

+IT IS NOT LIKELY TO GAIN A PLACE IN THE FORSEEABLE FUTURE.+

DR. MAHATHIR SAID THE GOVERNMENT HAD GIVEN CONSIDERATION TO PROPOSALS TO SET UP SUCH A COMMISSION. ----BERNAMA MORE 1650/BY 185

££

N110 (F)
MAHATHIR-EDUCATION 3 KUALA LUMPUR

DR. MAHATHIR SAID MALAYSIA BELIEVED IN FORWARD PLANNING. WHEN THE COUNTRY DECIDED THAT THE FUTURE LAY IN INDUSTRIALISATION AND MODERNISATION OF TRADITIONAL AREAS OF ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES, THE MANPOWER FOR THIS SWITCH HAD TO BE TRAINED VERY EARLY.

+ THE EMPHASIS ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY WHICH IS THE NATIONAL WAR-CRY NOW MEANS THAT PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOL SYLLABI AS WELL AS UNIVERSITY AND TECHNICAL COLLEGE COURSES HAVE TO BE REVISED AND IMPLEMENTED ACCORDINGLY.+

HE SAID TELESCOPING OF PROGRAMMES MUST BE DEVISED SO THAT THE EMPHASIS ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AT PRIMARY, SECONDARY AND TERTIARY LEVELS WOULD BE SHOWN NOT IN ARRANGED TIME SEQUENCE BUT IN CO-ORDINATED SERIES OF INTER-LOCKING CHANGES.

DR. MAHATHIR SAID THAT ALTHOUGH CO-ORDINATION IN HIGHER EDUCATION WAS NECESSARY, IT WAS NOT APPRECIATED BY ALL QUARTERS, INCLUDING INTELLECTUALS WHO WERE OPPOSED TO ANY KIND OF RESTRAINT OR REGIMENTATION. --BERNAMA MORE 1654/BY

N111 (F)
MAHATHIR-EDUCATION 4 KUALA LUMPUR

HE ADDED THAT WHILE CO-ORDINATION WAS MADE EVER MORE CLEAR-CUT BY THE EMERGENCE OF LATE OF THE SINGLE-DISCIPLINE UNIVERSITY IN THE COUNTRY, EACH VICE-CHANCELLOR AIMED AT GETTING FOR HIMSELF A GIVEN FIELD OF EXPANSION.

SOMETIMES THEIR INTERPRETATION WAS DIRECTED AT REJECTING A PARTICULAR FIELD IN WHICH THEY WERE NOT INTERESTED.

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER EMPHASISED THAT CO-ORDINATION DID NOT MEAN TOTAL PREVENTION OF DUPLICATION.

SIMILAR FACULTIES MIGHT BE SET UP IN SEVERAL UNIVERSITIES IF THE NEED WAS CLEARLY SEEN FOR GREATER PRODUCTION BEYOND THE CAPACITY OF SINGLE UNIVERSITY.

HE SAID THAT THE ACTUAL STUDENT COMPOSITION IN EACH FACULTY IN EVERY UNIVERSITY HAD TO BE REGULATED.

+GIVEN THE NEED TO RESTRUCTURE SOCIETY, AND THE UNIFORMITY OF REACTION WHATEVER THE POLICY, THE MINISTRY WILL TRY TO PLAY ITS ROLE SO THAT SOME DEGREE OF EQUITABILITY AT LEAST IS ACHIEVED,+ HE ADDED. --BERNAMA 1659/BY

N153 (F)
MAHATHIR-EDUCATION 5 KUALA LUMPUR (RE-OPENS ITEM 111)

EARLIER, IN OPENING THE 11TH MALAYSIAN-SINGAPORE CONGRESS OF MEDICINE, DR. MAHATHIR SAID PROFESSIONAL BODIES IN THE COUNTRY COULD EFFECTIVELY CONTRIBUTE TOWARDS GOVERNMENT EFFORTS TO IMPROVE LIVING STANDARDS OF THE PEOPLE.

HE SAID "AS A DEVELOPING NATION, OUR RELIANCE ON PROFESSIONALS BODIES IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF ALL GOVERNMENT POLICIES IS MUCH GREATER."

HE HOPES THE PROFESSIONAL BODIES WOULD RECIPROCATE BY GIVING THEIR VIEWS AND ADVICE AND CO-OPERATION WHENEVER NEEDED.

DR. MAHATHIR ALSO HOPED THE HEALTH MINISTRY WOULD MAKE SLIGHT SHIFTS IN POLICIES AND PRIORITIES TO STRIKE MORE EFFECTIVELY AT THE ROOT OF THE PROBLEMS, AS EXPERIENCED IN THE SECOND MALAYSIA PLAN.

HOPED THE CONGRESS WOULD CONCENTRATE ON HOW TO FURTHER IMPROVE THE STANDARD OF HEALTH AND MEDICINE IN THE COUNTRY.

--BERNAMA HM 1933