

MAHATHIR - REPORT '金'金'金'

KUCHING, JAN. 7 (BERNAMA) -- DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMAD ASSURED TODAY THAT THERE WILL DEFINITELY BE AN UPWARD SALARY REVISION FOR THE CIVIL SERVANTS.

HOWEVER, THIS WOULD HAVE TO BE WITHIN THE MEANS OF THE GOVERNMENT. HE ADDED BEFORE RETURNING TO KUALA LUMPUR AFTER A ONE-DAY VISIT HERE.

+ I WONT SAY THAT THE IBRAHIM ALI REPORT WILL BE IMPLEMENTED IN SARAWAK BUT THERE WILL DEFINITELY BE A SALARY REVISION UPWARD FOR THE STATE AND THE REST OF MALAYSIA, + THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER SAID.

+ HOW SOON WILL DEPEND ON HOW FAST THE UNIONS ARE GOING TO ACCEPT OUR COMPROMISE SOLUTION, WHICH IS WITHIN THE CAPACITY OF THE GOVERNMENT TO PAY. +

DR. MAHATHIR REMARKED THAT THE GOVERNMENT'S DUND WAS NOT UNLIMITED AND THE COST OF THE IBRAHIM ALI SALARY REVISION WAS TOO HIGH. -- BERNAMA MORE 1655/ZCM

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HE PRAISED UNION LEADER IN SARAWAK FOR BEING APPRECIATIVE AND REASONABLE ON THE ISSUE.

ALTHOUGH THEY WERE INTERESTED IN HAVING THEIR SALARIES REVISED, THE UNION LEADERS APPRECIATED THE PROBLEMS FACED BY THE GOVERNMENT, HE ADDED.

DR. MAHATHIR HELD A CLOSED-DOOR MEETING WITH 40 UNION LEADERS SHORTLY AFTER HIS ARRIVAL HERE YESTERDAY.

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER SAID HE APPRECIATED SOME OF THEIR PROBLEMS AND TOOK NOTE OF THEIR OPINIONS.

+ IT WAS A FRUITFUL DISCUSSION, + HE ADDED.

ON HIS MEETING WITH THE TEACHERS TODAY, DR. MAHATHIR SAID HE WOULD LOOK INTO THE PROBLEMS PUT FORWARD BY THEM.

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER WAS GIVEN A GRAND SEND-OFF AT THE KUCHING AIRPORT. DEPUTY CHIEF MINISTER DATUK DUNSTAN ENDAWIE AND STATE CABINET MINISTERS WERE PRESENT.

THIS MORNING HE WAS BRIEFED ON THE DEVELOPMENT PROGRESS IN THE STATE BY DATUK ENDAWIE BEFORE ATTENDING FRIDAY PRAYERS AT THE STATE MOSQUE. -- BERNAMA 1717/ZCM