

MAHATHIR

KUALA LUMPUR, MAY 19 (BERNAMA) -- THE GOVERNMENT IS TO REVIEW THE ENTIRE ENTREPRENEURIAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES OF MAJOR RESTRUCTURING AGENCIES INITIATED UNDER THE NEW ECONOMIC POLICY.

DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMAD SAID TODAY THAT PREVIOUSLY SOME AREAS OF ENTREPRENEURIAL DEVELOPMENTS LIKE PRODUCTION AND MARKETING HAD NOT BEEN GIVEN THE NECESSARY EMPHASIS ALTHOUGH THESE AREAS TENDED TO BE THE MOST NEEDY.

IN ADDITION, THERE WAS OVERWHELMING EVIDENCE THAT A MAJOR PROBLEM OF BUMIPUTRA ENTREPRENEURS WAS CORPORATE FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT.

DR. MAHATHIR, WHO IS ALSO EDUCATION MINISTER, WAS SPEAKING AT THE OPENING OF THE FOURTH MALAYSIAN ECONOMIC CONVENTION ON PUBLIC POLICIES FOR RESTRUCTURING OF SOCIETY ORGANISED BY THE MALAYSIAN ECONOMIC ASSOCIATION.

THE THREE-DAY CONVENTION IS BEING HELD AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MALAYA HERE. -- BERNAMA MORE 1125/SZ

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HE SAID ONE OF THE MAJOR SOCIO-ECONOMIC POLICIES INITIATED BY THE GOVERNMENT TO INCREASE BUMIPUTRA PARTICIPATION IN THE ECONOMY WAS THE ENTREPRENEURIAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME.

+IT WILL BECOME A MAJOR TASK OF THE GOVERNMENT TO RATIONALISE AND COORDINATE THE VARIOUS PROGRAMMES SO THAT WOULD-BE BUMIPUTRA ENTREPRENEURS WOULD BE UPGRADED IN TERMS OF THE SERVICES, FACILITIES AND INCENTIVES PROVIDED FOR THEM, + HE ADDED.

+IN ADDITION TO RATIONALISATION, IT MAY BE NECESSARY TO REDESIGN THE PROGRAMME ITSELF TO PROVIDE FOR MORE MEANINGFUL ASSISTANCE TO BUMIPUTRAS.+

DR. MAHATHIR ALSO SPOKE ON THE NEED TO MAKE A CLEAR DISTINCTION BETWEEN THE ROLE OF THE BUMIPUTRA ENTREPRENEUR AND THE PUBLIC CORPORATION IN THE CORPORATE SECTOR.

HE SAID: +REPORTS FROM THE BUMIPUTRA ENTREPRENEURS INDICATE IN SOME SPECIFIC INSTANCES THAT PUBLIC CORPORATIONS HAVE COMPETED AGAINST BOTH BUMIPUTRA AND NON-BUMIPUTRA.

+WHEN THE NEW ECONOMIC POLICY WAS DESIGNED IT WAS NEVER THE INTENTION OF THE GOVERNMENT FOR PUBLIC CORPORATIONS TO COMPETE AGAINST BUMIPUTRA ENTREPRENEURS. -- BERNAMA MORE 1130/SZ

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+IT IS OBVIOUS THAT NEW POLICY GUIDELINES ARE REQUIRED TO REDEFINE MORE CLEARLY THE RESPECTIVE AREAS OF ECONOMIC PARTICIPATION.

+GENERALLY THOUGH, THE PUBLIC CORPORATIONS SHOULD PERFORM THE ROLE OF A CATALYST FOR BUMIPUTRA ENTREPRENEURS.+

DR. MAHATHIR ALSO POINTED OUT THAT AS A RESULT OF UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION AND ANALYSIS, THE GOVERNMENT HAD IDENTIFIED IMPLEMENTATION SYSTEM AND CORPORATION FINANCIAL CONTROL AS THE PRIMARY PROBLEMS FACING THE THIRD MALAYSIA PLAN.

AT THE CENTRAL LEVEL, HE SAID, THE GOVERNMENT HAD DESIGNED A STATISTICAL MONITORING (CONTROL) SYSTEM ON EQUITY, EMPLOYMENT AND MANAGEMENT.

HOWEVER, A MONITORING OR CONTROL SYSTEM DESIGNED TO TRACK INEFFICIENCY AT THE CORPORATE LEVEL HAD NOT BEEN DEvised.

+IF IMPLEMENTATION INEFFICIENCY IS NOT CORRECTED, THE BENEFITS ORIGINALLY CONCEIVED WHEN THE PROJECTS WERE SELECTED WOULD NOT MATERIALISE.+ HE ADDED.

+A MONITORING OR CONTROL SYSTEM ENABLES EARLY DETECTION OF MISTAKES OR INADEQUACIES WHICH CONSEQUENTLY WILL LEAD TO EARLY CORRECTIVE PROCEDURES WHICH WILL ENABLE THAT ORIGINAL EXPECTATIONS ARE REALISED.+

-- BERNAMA MORE 1150/SZ

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HE SAID THE PRIMARY AGENCIES CONCERNED HAD BEEN DIRECTED TO WORK ON SUCH A SYSTEM.

HE ALSO INDICATED THAT UNDER THE THIRD MALAYSIA PLAN THE GOVERNMENT WOULD CONTINUE TO MAKE LARGE INVESTMENTS ON REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT.

THE GENERAL THEORY FOR REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT WAS TO PULL IN EXCESS AGRICULTURAL POPULATION FROM INSTITUTIONAL AGRICULTURE WITH AN URBAN- INDUSTRIAL BASE WHICH IN TURN WOULD LESSEN THE PRESSURES ON EXISTING URBAN CENTRES.

DR. MAHATHIR SAID ABOUT \$12 BILLION WOULD BE SPENT ON THE EXISTING THREE MAJOR REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITIES.

A FOURTH AUTHORITY WAS NOW BEING PLANNED IN THE SOUTH KELANTAN AREA.

HE SAID IT WAS TOO EARLY TO MAKE AN EVALUATION OF THE POTENTIAL OF THESE REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AREAS IN THE RESTRUCTURING GOALS OF THE NEW ECONOMIC POLICY +BUT IF JENKKA IS ANY EXAMPLE, THE POTENTIALS ARE INDEED GOOD.+

JENKKA WOULD SUPPORT ABOUT 62,000 PERSONS BY 1980.

DR. MAHATHIR SAID THE URBAN INDUSTRIAL CENTRES IN THESE REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITIES WERE DESIGNED TO PROVIDE A CATALYST FOR A BASICALLY BUT NOT EXCLUSIVELY BUMIPUTRA INDUSTRIAL AND COMMERCIAL COMMUNITY.

-- BERNAMA MORE 1200/SZ

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DR. MAHATHIR ALSO STRESSED THAT THE GOVERNMENT WAS COMMITTED TO SEE THE FULL REALISATION OF THE EMPLOYMENT AND EQUITY GOALS OF THE NEW ECONOMIC POLICY WITHOUT STIFLING GROWTH.

HE SAID: +GENERALLY THE GOVERNMENT IS MOVING TOWARDS A CONCEPT OF INTEGRATED POLICY PLANNING WITH THE PRIVATE SECTOR.

+THE APPROACH IS PRAGMATIC AND FLEXIBLE. WE HAVE CONSULTED AND INTEND TO CONSULT THE PRIVATE SECTOR ON MOST POLICY CHANGES.

+COMPLAINTS AND FEEDBACK FROM THE PRIVATE SECTOR ARE TAKEN SERIOUSLY AND ACTED UPON.+

HE SAID ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT CONCEPTS DEVELOPED BY THE CABINET COMMITTEE ON INVESTMENT OF WHICH HE IS THE CHAIRMAN WAS THAT OF PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTOR PARTNERSHIP IN DEVELOPMENT.

+THIS PARTNERSHIP IS BECOMING MORE REAL AS COMMUNICATION IMPROVES BETWEEN THE TWO SECTORS,+ HE CONTINUED.

+TANGIBLE RESULTS HAVE ALREADY BEEN OBTAINED AS EVIDENCED BY THE MICRO POLICY CHANGES, LEGISLATIVE AMENDMENTS AND THE PACKAGE DEAL APPROACH TO BUREAUCRATIC PROCEDURES.+ -- BERNAMA

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