

MAHATHIR

78 P
KUALA LUMPUR, NOV. 14 (BERNAMA)—DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMAD INDICATED TONIGHT THAT MALAYSIA MIGHT BECOME A MANUFACTURING SOURCE OF AUTOMATIVE COMPONENTS FOR THE ASEAN MARKET.

HE SAID, DURING HIS RECENT INVESTMENT PROMOTION VISIT TO JAPAN, HE WAS INFORMED BY THOSE ASSOCIATED WITH THE MOTOR INDUSTRY THAT MANY DISCUSSIONS ON THE MATTER HAD BEEN GOING ON.

+IT IS MOST ENCOURAGING TO HEAR BUSINESSMEN TALKING OF JOINT MALAYSIAN-JAPANESE TECHNOLOGY TO MANUFACTURE GOODS IN MALAYSIA WHICH MAY ULTIMATELY BE EXPORTED NOT ONLY TO ASEAN COUNTRIES BUT ALSO TO JAPAN AND EVEN EUROPE,+ HE SAID.

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER WHO IS ALSO THE MINISTER OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY WAS SPEAKING BEFORE THE LAUNCHING OF THE NEW SUBARU CAR AT A LEADING HOTEL HERE.

HE BELIEVED THAT WITH MALAYSIA'S SOUND ECONOMY, RELATIVELY LOW PRODUCTION COSTS AND STABLE POLITICAL CLIMATE, MORE COMPANIES WOULD BE LOOKING AT THE COUNTRY AS A SOURCE OF MANUFACTURING ACTIVITIES. —BERNAMA MORE 2123/AH

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MAHATHIR 2 KUALA LUMPUR

THROUGH THIS, MALAYSIA WOULD BE ABLE TO REDRESS HER TRADING IMBALANCE THAT EXISTS WITH SOME OF HER TRADING PARTNERS, HE ADDED.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR DESCRIBED THE LAUNCHING OF THE CAR, A JOINT VENTURE BETWEEN THE ARMED FORCES COOPERATIVE AND WEARNE BROTHERS, AS AN IMPORTANT STEP FORWARD IN THE BUMIPUTRA PARTICIPATION IN THE MOTORCAR INDUSTRY.

ALSO PRESENT AT THE CEREMONY WERE THE DEFENCE MINISTER, DATUK AMAR HAJI TAIB MAHMUD AND THE JAPANESE AMBASSADOR HERE, ENCIK EIKICHI HARA. —BERNAMA 2125/AH