

FROM HASHIM MAKARUDDIN

MILAN, APRIL 27, (BERNAMA) — MALAYSIA HAS SUCCEEDED IN ATTRACTING THE INTEREST OF MEDIUM-SIZED INVESTORS TO INVEST IN THE COUNTRY AS A RESULT OF THE INVESTMENT PROMOTION MISSIONS TO BRITAIN, WEST GERMANY AND ITALY, (DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMAD) SAID TODAY.

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER TOLD BERNAMA AND RTM IN AN INTERVIEW HERE THAT THE ATTENDANCE OF FOREIGN PARTICIPANTS AT THE VARIOUS SEMINARS IN MANCHESTER MUNICH AND MILAN WAS BEYOND EXPECTATION.

HE SAID THAT AT PRESENT FOREIGN INVESTMENT IN MALAYSIA WAS DONE MAINLY BY MULTINATIONAL COMPANIES WHO KNEW MUCH ABOUT INVESTMENT PROCEDURES OVERSEAS.

HOWEVER, FROM THE LARGE NUMBER OF MEDIUM SIZED INVESTORS ATTENDING THE SEMINARS ESPECIALLY IN MUNICH AND MILAN, MALAYSIA WAS ABLE TO TAP A NEW SOURCE OF INVESTMENT WHICH HAD NOT INVOLVED ITSELF BEFORE IN INVESTMENT ABROAD.

THESE MEDIUM SIZED INVESTORS HAD VERY LITTLE KNOWLEDGE OR INFORMATION ABOUT MALAYSIA, HE ADDED.

+FROM QUESTIONS AND ENQUIRIES THEY MAKE, THEY ARE NOW AWARE OF THE POSSIBILITY OF EXPANDING THEIR BUSINESSES OUT OF THEIR RESPECTIVE COUNTRIES+ DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR SAID. —BERNAMA MORE

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HE SAID THESE MEDIUM SIZED INVESTORS WERE IMPRESSED WITH THE EFFICIENT WAY MALAYSIA IMPLEMENTED INDUSTRIAL PROJECTS.

FOR EXAMPLE, SOME PROJECTS COULD START FIVE MONTHS AFTER BEING APPROVED BY MIDA AND FACTORY BUILDINGS COULD BE COMPLETED AHEAD OF TIME FOR THEM TO BEGIN PRODUCTION EFFICIENTLY.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR, WHO IS ALSO TRADE AND INDUSTRY MINISTER, POINTED OUT THAT IN EUROPE THIS COULD NOT HAVE BEEN POSSIBLE BECAUSE OF THE MANY RESTRICTIONS IMPOSED NOT BY THE GOVERNMENT BUT BY EXISTING CONDITIONS THERE.

AS THE RESULT OF THE CLEAR PICTURE PRESENTED TO THEM THEY WERE NOW VERY MUCH INTERESTED TO INVEST IN MALAYSIA, HE ADDED.

HE FELT THAT THE LARGE NUMBER OF MALAYSIAN PRIVATE SECTOR PARTICIPANTS IN THE SEMINARS WOULD PRODUCE POSITIVE RESULTS FROM THEIR DIRECT CONTACTS AND INDIVIDUAL MEETINGS WITH THEIR FOREIGN COUNTERPARTS.

+CONTACT OF THIS NATURE WILL MATERIALISE IN JOINT VENTURE POSSIBILITIES BETTER THAN MEETINGS BETWEEN OFFICIALS AND FOREIGN INVESTORS+, HE ADDED. —BERNAMA MORE 2049/BY

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DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR DISCLOSED THAT TWO INVESTMENT MISSIONS WOULD VISIT MALAYSIA AT THE END OF THIS YEAR FROM THE STATE OF BAVARIA IN WEST GERMANY. IT WOULD COMPRISE REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE PRIVATE SECTOR.

ANOTHER MISSION, LED BY ITS STATE ECONOMIC AFFAIRS MINISTER, ENCIK ANTON JAUMANN, WOULD ALSO VISIT MALAYSIA.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR EMPHASISED THE NECESSITY OF SENDING REPEATED MISSIONS ABROAD AND UPDATE ITS INVESTMENT PROMOTION CAMPAIGNS TO ACHIEVE THE DESIRED RESULTS.

HE POINTED OUT THAT THIS WAS NECESSARY BECAUSE AS IN THE CASE OF ADVERTISING ONE COULD NOT REST SATISFIED WITH WHAT ONE HAD DONE MERELY BECAUSE ONE HAD CREATED AN IMPACT.

+IN ORDER TO HAVE AN IMPACT ONE HAS TO CONTINUE TO ADVERTISE ALL THE TIME+, HE ADDED.

SUCH MISSIONS NEED NOT NECESSARILY BE LED BY HIM, HE SAID. DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR AND SOME MEMBERS OF THE INVESTMENT MISSION LEAVE MILAN FOR HOME TOMORROW. —BERNAMA 2052/BY