

MAHATHIR - NEP
BM

79 (P)
KUALA LUMPUR, OCT. 6 (BERNAMA) — (DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMED) SAID TODAY THE GOVERNMENT IS AWARE THAT CERTAIN ORGANISATIONS IN THE COUNTRY ARE DRAWING A BAD PICTURE OF THE NEW ECONOMIC POLICY IN OTHER COUNTRIES.

HOWEVER THIS WAS ON THE DECREASE FOLLOWING ACTION TAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT.

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER WAS SPEAKING TO REPORTERS AFTER OPENING THE LEADERSHIP COURSE OF THE UNIVERSITI KEBANGSAAN MALAYSIA'S (UKM) MEDICAL UNDERGRADUATES ASSOCIATION AT THE UKM MEDICAL FACULTY IN JALAN RAJA MUDA HERE.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR, WHO IS ALSO TRADE AND INDUSTRY MINISTRY, REPEATED HIS WARNING TO BUSINESSMEN NOT TO INCREASE THE PRICES OF GOODS EXCESSIVELY FOLLOWING THE INCREASE IN ELECTRICITY CHARGES. 109

HE SAW NO REASON WHY THERE SHOULD BE AN EXORBITANT PRICE HIKE AND STRESSED THAT THE GOVERNMENT WOULD ACT AGAINST UNJUSTIFIED INCREASES.

EARLIER, SPEAKING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY, HE SAID THAT SOCIAL VALUES SEEMED TO HAVE DETERIORATED DESPITE INCREASING RELIGIOUS AWARENESS AMONG THE PEOPLE. — BERNAMA MORE 1900/YF

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HE ATTRIBUTED THIS PARTLY TO GROUPS THAT TOOK THE OPPORTUNITY TO INTERPRET RELIGIOUS VALUES ACCORDING TO THEIR OWN INTERESTS.

FOR EXAMPLE THERE WERE SOME PEOPLE WHO HAD STOPPED SAYING +THANK YOU+ FOR THINGS GIVEN TO THEM BECAUSE THEY BELIEVED THAT EVERYTHING CAME DIRECT FROM GOD.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR SAID THAT WHILE IT WAS UNDENIABLE THAT ALL THINGS CAME FROM GOD, IT WAS ALSO TRUE THAT SOMETIMES THE RECIPIENT WOULD GET THE GIFT BY WAY OF A MIDDLEMAN WHO SHOULD STILL BE THANKED FOR HIS EFFORT.

HE HOPED THAT ALL RELIGIOUS VALUES WERE GIVEN THE CORRECT INTERPRETATION AND THAT ALL SOCIAL VALUES BE STUDIED TO CAST AWAY THE BAD.

PRESENT AT THE CEREMONY WAS UKM VICE-CHANCELLOR, TAN SRI DR. ANUWAR MAHMUD. — BERNAMA 1904/YF