

MAHATHIR

79 (P)
KUALA LUMPUR, NOV. 13 (BERNAMA)—MALAYSIA WILL CONTINUE TO USE THE WORLD BANK FOR LOANS TO HELP FINANCE ITS DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS, (DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMAD) SAID TODAY.

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER ADDED ALTHOUGH THERE WERE CERTAIN PROBLEMS, THE WORLD BANK WAS STILL A GOOD SOURCE OF FUNDS.

HE SAID THIS TO REPORTERS AFTER THE REGIONAL VICE-PRESIDENT FOR EAST ASIA AND THE PACIFIC REGION OF THE WORLD BANK ENCIK SHAHID HUSAIN, CALLED ON HIM AT HIS OFFICE HERE.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR, WHO IS ALSO TRADE AND INDUSTRY MINISTER, SAID MALAYSIA'S CAPACITY TO REPAY THE LOANS SHE OBTAINED FROM THE WORLD BANK AND TO UTILISE THE LOANS SUCCESSFULLY TO IMPLEMENT ITS PROJECTS WAS GREATLY APPRECIATED BY THE BANK.

AS A RESULT, HE SAID, THERE WAS NOT MUCH NEED FOR THE BANK TO OVERSEE THE PROJECTS MALAYSIA IMPLEMENTED IN WHICH THE WORLD BANK LOANS WERE INVOLVED.—BERNAMA MORE 1657/AH
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HE ADDED THAT THE WORLD BANK RECOGNISED THE FACT THAT MALAYSIA HAD THE MACHINERY, SUCH AS THE ECONOMIC PLANNING UNIT AND THE IMPLEMENTATION AND CO-ORDINATION UNIT, TO ENSURE THE SUCCESSFUL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROJECTS.

DURING THE DISCUSSIONS WITH ENCIK SHAHID, THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER BROUGHT UP THE QUESTION OF WHETHER THE BANK COULD IMPROVE THE CONDITIONS OF ITS LOAN AND THE POSSIBILITY OF THE BANK HELPING MALAYSIA TO CARRY OUT STUDIES ON FINDING ALTERNATIVE SOURCES OF ENERGY SUCH AS COAL, SHALE AND HYDRO-ELECTRIC.

THEY ALSO DISCUSSED THE GENERAL PROBLEMS OF INDUSTRIALISATION AND THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER SOUNDED OUT IF THE WORLD BANK COULD HELP CREATE GREATER UNDERSTANDING AMONG INDUSTRIALISED COUNTRIES OF THE NEED TO INDUSTRIALISE IN COUNTRIES LIKE MALAYSIA.

LATER, ENCIK SHAHID CALLED ON THE PRIME MINISTER, DATUK HUSSEIN ONN, AT HIS OFFICE HERE.

ENCIK SHAHID, WHO IS LEADING A WORLD BANK DELEGATION, IS HERE TO FIND OUT HOW THE BANK'S ASSISTANCE SHOULD BE GEARED TO MEET THE NEEDS OF THE FOURTH MALAYSIA PLAN.—BERNAMA 1718/BY