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SUNGEI PETANI, SEPT. 7 ((BERNAMA) - /DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMAD SAID TODAY MALAYSIA IS MOVING INTO THE CAPITAL AND RESOURCE BASED INDUSTRIES IN ORDER TO BECOME RECOGNISED AS A FULLY INDUSTRIALISED NATION.

HE SAID THAT AT THE MOMENT, MALAYSIA COULD NOT BE CLASSIFIED AS AN INDUSTRIALISED COUNTRY ALTHOUGH THE COUNTRY WAS WELL AHEAD IN THE EXPLOITATION OF HER NATURAL RESOURCES AND IN AGRICULTURE.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR WHO IS ALSO THE MINISTER OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY SAID MALAYSIA SHOULD DIVERSIFY INTO INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND CREATE MORE OPPORTUNITIES AND REVENUE FOR THE COUNTRY.

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER WAS SPEAKING AT THE OPENING OF PHARM MALAYSIA SDN. BHD., A \$111.5 MILLION FACTORY AT THE BAKAR ARANG INDUSTRIAL ESTATE NEAR HERE. THE FACTORY IS A JOINT VENTURE BETWEEN SARABHAI ENTERPRISES OF INDIA AND LOCAL INVESTORS.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR SAID THE JOINT VENTURE PROJECTS BETWEEN INDIAN AND MALAYSIAN INVESTORS SUCH AS PHARMMALAYSIA WOULD BE SUCCESSFUL BECAUSE INDIAN EXPERTISE AND TECHNICAL KNOW HOW WERE SUITABLE FOR THE MALAYSIAN INDUSTRIAL CLIMATE.

HE WAS CONFIDENT THAT MORE INDIAN INVESTORS WOULD COME TO MALAYSIA SINCE THE GOVERNMENTS OF INDIA AND MALAYSIA ENCOURAGED JOINT VENTURES. -- BERNAMA MORE 1855/1E

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DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR REITERATED THAT THE MALAYSIAN GOVERNMENT ENCOURAGED FOREIGN INVESTMENTS BECAUSE MALAYSIA WAS STILL FACING UNEMPLOYMENT PROBLEMS AND IT ALSO LACKED TECHNICAL EXPERTISE.

HE SAID FOREIGN FIRMS SHOULD ALSO TAKE THE INITIATIVE TO TRAIN LOCAL WORKERS EITHER LOCALLY OR IN THE PARENT COMPANY'S COUNTRY.

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER SAID JAPANESE INVESTORS IN MALAYSIA HAD AGREED TO TRAIN THEIR MALAYSIAN WORKERS IN JAPAN AND HE HOPED THAT THE OTHER INVESTORS WOULD FOLLOW THIS EXAMPLE.

HE SAID THE MALAYSIAN GOVERNMENT EXPECTED FOREIGN INVESTORS TO REALISE THAT THEY WERE HERE NOT ONLY TO REAP PROFITS BUT ALSO TO HELP ACHIEVE THE TARGETS OF THE NEW ECONOMIC POLICY.

THEIR PARTICIPATION IN THE COUNTRY'S INDUSTRIALISATION PROGRAMME WAS FOR THE BENEFIT OF BOTH SIDES, HE ADDED. -- BERNAMA MORE 1900/1B

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HE REMINDED INVESTORS NOT TO EXPLOIT MALAYSIAN WORKERS BY PAYING LOW SALARIES. WORKERS ON THE OTHER HAND SHOULD ALSO WORK HARD TO INCREASE THEIR PRODUCTIVITY.

WORKERS SHOULD NOT BE AN UNHEALTHY GROUP BY DEMANDING HIGH SALARIES AND THREATENING THEIR EMPLOYERS. THEY SHOULD ALWAYS ABIDE BY THE RULES AND REGULATIONS.

EARLIER, THE CHAIRMAN OF PHARMMALAYSIA, DR. SYED MAHMOOD SYED HUSSEIN, SAID THE JOINT VENTURE PROJECT WAS THE OUTCOME

OF THE MALAYSIAN GOVERNMENT'S POLICY OF INVITING FOREIGN INVESTORS TO START JOINT VENTURES WITH LOCAL ENTREPRENEURS.

HE SAID THE FACTORY WAS FULLY EQUIPPED WITH MACHINERY AND MODERN FACILITIES FOR THE MANUFACTURE AND QUALITY TESTING OF PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS.

PHARMMALAYSIA PRODUCTS, NOW NUMBERING 70 WERE FIRST INTRODUCED INTO THE MALAYSIAN MARKET IN JUNE 1977.

THE PRODUCTS WERE WELL RECEIVED BY THE MEDICAL PROFESSION AND THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH. -- BERNAMA 1905/1B