

NO50 (F)
MAHATHIR-EXCO
BM

KUALA LUMPUR, SEPT. 2 (BERNAMA) — (DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD SAID TODAY THAT MEMBERS OF STATE EXECUTIVE COUNCILS WOULD BE REMOVED IF THEY DID NOT GIVE UP THEIR OWN BUSINESSES.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THAT EXECUTIVE COUNCILLORS HAD NO CHOICE BUT TO GIVE UP THEIR BUSINESS OR PROFESSION IF THEY WISHED TO CONTINUE HOLDING THEIR POSTS.

HE SAID THE GOVERNMENT'S MOVE TO RAISE THE ALLOWANCES AS WELL AS TO PROVIDE OTHER FACILITIES SUCH AS VEHICLES AND OFFICES FOR THEM WAS TO ENSURE THAT THEY WOULD SERVE THE STATE GOVERNMENT ON A FULL-TIME BASIS.

THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT WANTED TO SEE THAT ALL THE EXECUTIVE COUNCILLORS OBSERVED THIS REGULATION WHICH WAS ISSUED LAST YEAR, HE TOLD REPORTERS AFTER CHAIRING A CABINET MEETING HERE.

— BERNAMA MORE 1655/SZ

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DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID THE GOVERNMENT HAD IN THE PAST ALLOWED EXECUTIVE COUNCILLORS TO CARRY ON THEIR OWN BUSINESS OR PROFESSION AS THEIR ALLOWANCES HAD BEEN INADEQUATE.

HOWEVER, THERE HAD BEEN INSTANCES OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST IN MAKING DECISIONS ON DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS IN WHICH THE FIRMS OF EXCO MEMBERS WERE INVOLVED.

THE MATTER WOULD NOT RECUR WITH THE NEW REGULATION REQUIRING EXCO MEMBERS TO WORK FULL TIME, HE SAID.

HOWEVER, EXECUTIVE COUNCILLORS OWNING BUSINESSES COULD TRANSFER THE MANAGEMENT OF SUCH FIRMS TO OTHER PEOPLE INCLUDING MEMBERS OF THEIR FAMILIES.

REPLYING TO ANOTHER QUESTION, THE PRIME MINISTER SAID MINISTERS AND STATE EXECUTIVE COUNCILLORS HAD NOT DECLARED THEIR ASSETS YET AS THE FORM FOR THE PURPOSE WAS NOT READY.

THIS WAS NOT AN ORDINARY FORM AS IT REQUIRED THE PERSON FILLING IT UP TO MAKE A DECLARATION BEFORE A COMMISSIONER OF OATH.

—BERNAMA MORE 1702/MD

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THE GOVERNMENT WOULD ESTABLISH A MECHANISM TO REVIEW OR INSPECT THE DECLARATIONS THAT GAVE RISE TO DOUBTS.

ON THE CLOCK IN SYSTEM, HE SAID THE MOVE WOULD ENSURE THAT GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES WOULD NOT WASTE OFFICE TIME.

THE GOVERNMENT WOULD PROVIDE A CERTAIN TIME FOR THEM TO REST.

ON THE STATEMENT BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE, DATUK LEE BOON PENG, ON THE LACK OF ATTENTION PAID TO THE RECOMMENDATION AND PROPOSALS OF THE COMMITTEE BY GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS, HE SAID HIS GOVERNMENT WOULD GIVE SERIOUS ATTENTION TO THE RECOMMENDATIONS AND CRITICISMS OF THE COMMITTEE.

HE WOULD ENSURE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF EVERY RECOMMENDATION AND PROPOSAL THAT WAS SUITABLE

AND WITHIN THE MEANS OF THE GOVERNMENT. —BERNAMA MORE 1706/MD

NO60 (F)
MAHATHIR-EXCO 4 KUALA LUMPUR

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR ALSO SAID THAT THE GOVERNMENT WOULD ENFORCE LEGISLATION MAKING IT MANDATORY FOR MANUFACTURERS TO MAINTAIN THE CLEANLINESS AND BEAUTY OF THEIR OWN COMPOUND.

THE REGULATIONS, WHICH WOULD COVER THE WHOLE COUNTRY, WOULD ALSO REQUIRE THE MANUFACTURERS TO MAINTAIN THE CLEANLINESS BEYOND THEIR FENCE TO THE PUBLIC ROADS, HE SAID.

THIS STEP WAS PART OF THE PLAN TO MAINTAIN CLEANLINESS AND BEAUTIFY THE COUNTRY FOR BETTER LIVING AND ALL PARTIES SHOULD COOPERATE TO MAKE IT A SUCCESS.

HE HAD DIRECTED THAT ALL GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS BE PROPERLY MAINTAINED AND THE COMPOUND BE PLANTED WITH TREES.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR ALSO EXPRESSED REGRET OVER THE CONDITION OF PUBLIC TOILETS IN THE COUNTRY, MANY OF WHICH WERE IN AN UNSATISFACTORY CONDITION.

THIS, HE SAID, WOULD GIVE A POOR-IMPRESSION OF THE COUNTRY TO FOREIGNERS.

HE REMINDED THE AUTHORITIES CONCERNED TO IMPROVE THE SITUATION IMMEDIATELY. —BERNAMA 1746/MD