

MAHATHIR
BM

PENANG, JUNE 28⁸¹ (BERNAMA) — (DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD)
SAID TODAY THAT AN ORGANISATION WILL ONLY BE CLASSIFIED AS A
POLITICAL SOCIETY BASED ON ITS OVERALL ACTIVITIES AND STATEMENTS.
THE ACTIVITIES AND STATEMENTS MADE OCCASIONALLY ON CERTAIN ISSUES
WOULD NOT BE CONSIDERED AS A REASON FOR CLASSIFYING AN ORGANISATION
AS A POLITICAL SOCIETY.

EXPLAINING THE AMENDMENTS TO THE SOCIETIES ACT, THE DEPUTY
PRIME MINISTER SAID ORGANISATIONS SHOULD NOT RUSH TO CHANGE THEIR
ORGANISATION INTO A POLITICAL ORGANISATION IF THEY WERE UNCLEAR
ABOUT THE AMENDMENTS.

IN HIS SPEECH FOR THE OPENING OF THE 35TH GENERAL MEETING OF THE
MALAYSIAN CHINESE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY HERE, HE SUGGESTED
THAT DIALOGUES BE HELD WITH THE GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS CONCERNED TO
OBTAIN CLARIFICATION ON THE AMENDMENTS, DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR'S
SPEECH WAS READ BY DEPUTY TRADE AND INDUSTRY MINISTER DATUK LEW
SIP HON.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR, WHO IS ALSO TRADE AND INDUSTRY MINISTER,
SAID THE AMENDMENTS WERE NOT AIMED AT ELIMINATING ORGANISATIONS
OR WEAKENING THEM. — BERNAMA MORE 1147/A1

NO15: (F)
MAHATHIR 2 PENANG

ON THE OTHER HAND, THE AMENDMENTS WERE TO PREVENT SOCIETIES
FROM BEING USED FOR POLITICAL ACTIVITIES.

THOSE WHO WISHED TO INDULGE IN POLITICS SHOULD DO SO OPENLY AND
NOT MAKE USE OF SOCIETIES AS THEIR FRONTS.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID THERE MIGHT BE SOME DOUBTS ABOUT
THE ENFORCEMENT OF THE AMENDMENTS BUT THE GOVERNMENT'S AIM WAS
CLEAR.

ON THE PRIVATE SECTOR PARTICIPATION IN THE ECONOMY, THE DEPUTY
PRIME MINISTER SAID THE GOVERNMENT WAS ALWAYS DRAWING UP NEW
STRATEGIES TO ASSIST THE BUSINESSMEN AND WOULD CONTINUE TO PROVIDE
INCENTIVES TO THEM TO INCREASE THEIR PARTICIPATION IN IT.

AT THE SAME TIME, THE GOVERNMENT HOPED THAT THE PRIVATE SECTOR WOULD COOPERATE FULLY TO MEET NATIONAL OBJECTIVES AS IT WAS ONLY THROUGH IN THIS WAY THAT THE COUNTRY COULD CONTINUE TO PROGRESS

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR ALSO SAID THAT THE GOVERNMENT WAS STRIVING TO FIND FOREIGN MARKETS FOR THE COUNTRY'S MANUFACTURES. — BERNAMA

MORE 1153/A1

NO16: (F)

MAHATHIR 3 PENANG

HE SAID THAT SINCE THE MANUFACTURING SECTOR WAS THE CATALYST OF THE NATIONAL ECONOMY, IT WAS PROPER THAT EFFORTS BE INTENSIFIED TO SEEK NEW MARKETS FOR THE INCREASING CONTRIBUTIONS BY THAT SECTOR.

UNDER THE FOURTH MALAYSIA PLAN, THE EXPORT SECTOR WAS EXPECTED TO GROW AT A RATE OF 9.7 PER CENT PER ANNUM AND TOTAL EXPORTS WERE ESTIMATED AT \$19.8 BILLION BY 1985 COMPARED TO \$7.2 BILLION IN 1980.

HE SAID EFFORTS WERE BEING MADE TO ACHIEVE THIS TARGET AND THIS INCLUDED THE SENDING OF MORE TRADE MISSIONS AND HOLDING SEMINARS AND WORKSHOPS.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID THAT IN MANY CASES INQUIRIES FROM THE PRIVATE SECTOR REGARDING PARTICIPATION IN TRADE MISSIONS HAD NOT BEEN ENCOURAGING, EXCEPT FOR MISSIONS TO CHINA.

HE HOPED THAT THE PRIVATE SECTOR WOULD MAKE FULL USE OF SUCH OPPORTUNITIES IN THE FUTURE. — BERNAMA 1156/A1