

KUALA LUMPUR, JULY 30 (BERNAMA) — DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMAD TODAY DIRECTED THAT SPECIAL BRIEFINGS AND DISCUSSIONS BE HELD TO FIND WAYS TO OVERCOME PROBLEMS STANDING IN THE WAY OF IMPLEMENTATION OF PROGRAMMES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE.

THE PRIME MINISTER, WHO IS ALSO DEFENCE MINISTER, WHILE EXPRESSING DISSATISFACTION OVER IMPLEMENTATION AT THE MINISTRY, SAID THE BRIEFINGS AND DISCUSSIONS WERE NECESSARY IN VIEW OF THE EXPANSION OF THE ARMED FORCES.

SPEAKING TO REPORTERS FOLLOWING HIS FIRST VISIT TO THE MINISTRY, HE STRESSED THAT THERE WAS NO PROBLEM WITH FINANCE OR PLANNING.

+ I AM KEEN TO KNOW, MORE FULLY, WHAT IT IS THAT IS OBSTRUCTING IMPLEMENTATION SO THAT I CAN ASSIST IN OVERCOMING THE PROBLEM, + HE SAID.

HE GAVE THE ASSURANCE THAT HE WOULD DO ALL IN HIS POWER TO HELP THE MINISTRY OVERCOME THOSE PROBLEMS.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR, WHO WAS GIVEN A BRIEFING, SAID HE TOOK THE OPPORTUNITY OF HIS VISIT TO GIVE SOME ADVICE TO THE OFFICERS OF THE MINISTRY ON THE ROLE THEY SHOULD PLAY. — BERNAMA MORE

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Datuk Seri Dr. Mahathir

HE ADDED THAT ALL THE BRANCHES OF THE ARMED FORCES ARE AWARE OF THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES AND THEY POSSESSED SUFFICIENT KNOWLEDGE OF THE ROLES THEY MUST PLAY.

HE PRAISED BOTH THE CIVILIAN AND UNIFORMED STAFF FOR THE GOOD COOPERATION AND UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THEM.

ON ARRIVAL, DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR WAS MET BY DEPUTY DEFENCE MINISTER, ABANG ABU BAKAR MUSTAPHA, THE CHIEF OF DEFENCE FORCES,

GEN. TAN SRI GHAZALI DATUK SETH AND THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE MINISTRY, TAN SRI MOHAMAD YUSUF ABDUL RAHMAN.

HE THEN INSPECTED A GUARD-OF-HONOUR MOUNTED BY 105 OFFICERS AND MEN FROM THE THREE SERVICES UNDER THE COMMAND OF MEJ. ARIFFIN SHAH MOHAMAD. — BERNAMA 1802/11