

MAHATHIR
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81 (P)
KUALA LUMPUR, APRIL 23 (BERNAMA) — THE GOVERNMENT HAS AGREED TO SET UP A ONE-STOP AGENCY TO PROVIDE VARIOUS SERVICES AND INFORMATION TO BUMIPUTRA CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTORS, DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMAD SAID TODAY.

THE UNITS WOULD BE SET UP IN TOWN CENTRES BUT WOULD NOT BE HOUSED IN GOVERNMENT OFFICES SO THAT IT WOULD BE BUSINESS ORIENTATED AND RED-TAPE WOULD BE CUT DOWN, HE SAID.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR SAID THE AGREEMENT TO SET UP THE UNIT FOLLOWED A PROPOSAL BY THE BUMIPUTRA CONTRACTORS' ASSOCIATION AND THE RECOMMENDATION BY THE MALAYSIAN ADMINISTRATION MODERNISATION AND PLANNING UNIT (MAMPU) FOR SUCH A FACILITY.

THE FIRST UNIT WOULD BE SET UP IN KUALA LUMPUR AND OTHERS LATER IN THE STATE CAPITALS, HE SAID WHEN OPENING THE MEETING OF THE CO-ORDINATION COMMITTEE FOR BUMIPUTRA PARTICIPATION IN TRADE AND INDUSTRY.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR, WHO IS ALSO TRADE AND INDUSTRY MINISTER SAID THE GOVERNMENT'S LATEST MOVE WAS PART OF EFFORTS TO INCREASE BUMIPUTRA PARTICIPATION IN THE TWO FIELDS. — BERNAMA MORE
1535/LK

NO38: (F)
MAHATHIR 2 KUALA LUMPUR

THE FUNCTION OF THE UNIT IN SERVING BUMIPUTRA CONTRACTORS WOULD BE SIMILAR TO THE ROLE OF THE MALAYSIAN INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (MIDA) IN ATTRACTING FOREIGN INVESTMENT, HE SAID.

FOR EXAMPLE, WITH REGARD TO INFORMATION ON TENDERS FOR CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS, THE UNIT WOULD DETERMINE THE NUMBER OF CONTRACTS OFFERED IN A YEAR AND IDENTIFY CONTRACTORS THAT WERE FELT TO BE CAPABLE OF ACCEPTING THE WORK IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE SCHEDULE.

HE SAID THE TRADE AND INDUSTRY MINISTRY'S BUMIPUTRA PARTICIPATION UNIT, WHICH WAS THE LONGEST ESTABLISHED BODY SET UP TO PROMOTE BUMIPUTRA PARTICIPATION IN TRADE AND INDUSTRY, WAS THE MOST EFFECTIVE COMPARED TO OTHER BODIES SET UP FOR THE SAME PURPOSE.

HE ADMITTED THAT THE BUMIPUTRA PARTICIPATION COMMITTEE CHAIRED BY HIM WAS NOT AS EFFECTIVE.

+THE BUMIPUTRA PARTICIPATION COMMITTEE OF WHICH I AM CHAIRMAN AND WHOSE MEMBERS COMPRISE MENTRIS BESAR AND CHIEF MINISTERS IS TOP-HEAVY, +RESULTING IN IT NOT BEING SO EFFECTIVE WITH REGARDS TO IMPLEMENTATION THOUGHIT HAD THE POLITICAL WILL, HE SAID. — BERNAMA MORE 1538/LK

NO39: (F)
MAHATHIR 3 KUALA LUMPUR

TO OVERCOME THIS PROBLEM, THE GOVERNMENT SET UP THE CO-ORDINATION COMMITTEE ON BUMIPUTRA PARTICIPATION, CHAIRED BY THE PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY OF THE MINISTRY, ENCIK ABDUL RAHIM DATUK THAMBY CHIK, ON JAN. 26 THIS YEAR.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR STRESSED THAT THE COMMITTEE MUST PROVE THAT IT WAS ACTIVE AND MOTIVATED IN ITS TASKS AND HE WANTED TO HAVE PROGRESS REPORTS FROM TIME TO TIME TOGETHER WITH RECORDS OF CONSTRUCTIVE CONTRIBUTIONS FROM MEMBERS.

TO BUMIPUTRAS, THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER REMINDED THEM THAT THE SETTING UP OF THE COMMITTEE DID NOT MEAN THAT ALL PROBLEMS FACING BUMIPUTRAS PARTICIPATION IN COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY WOULD BE SOLVED.

HE REMINDED THAT BUMIPUTRA INTERESTS WOULD SOON DISAPPEAR IF A GOVERNMENT THAT WAS NOT SYMPATHETIC TOWARDS THEM CAME TO POWER.

HE SAID THAT BUMIPUTRA SUCCESS IN TRADE AND INDUSTRY DEPENDED UPON THEMSELVES AND UPON THEIR DISCIPLINE, MANAGEMENT ABILITY AND BUSINESS ETHICS. -- BERNAMA MORE 1541/LK

MAHATHIR 4 KUALA LUMPUR

IN HIS SPEECH, ENCIK ABDUL RAHIM SAID A TASK FORCE WOULD BE SET UP TO HAVE DIALOGUES WITH THE PRIVATE SECTOR, PARTICULARLY PRODUCERS AND BIG COMPANIES.

THE OUTCOME OF THE DIALOGUES WOULD BE ANALYSED AND COMPILED INTO A DOCUMENT, REFLECTING THE OVERALL SCHEME OF THE PRIVATE SECTOR IN RESPONDING TOWARDS THE GOVERNMENT'S CALLS REGARDING THE NEW ECONOMIC POLICY. -- BERNAMA 1544/LK