

MAHATHIR - SALARY
BM

(P)

ALUR SETAR, JULY 30 (BERNAMA)-- THE GOVERNMENT DOES NOT INTEND TO CUT THE SALARIES OF CIVIL SERVANTS ALTHOUGH THE COUNTRY IS NOW FEELING THE EFFECTS OF THE WORLD ECONOMIC RECESSION, DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMAD SAID TODAY.

THE GOVERNMENT'S ECONOMY DRIVE, THE PRIME MINISTER SAID, FOCUSED ON CERTAIN AREAS ONLY AND AS SUCH AS, IT WAS NOT NECESSARY TO CUT THE PAY OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES.

+FURTHERMORE, I APPRECIATE THAT CIVIL SERVANTS ALREADY HAVE PROBLEMS OF THEIR OWN,+ DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR SAID AT THE OPENING OF THE ALUR SETAR UMNO DIVISION'S DELEGATES MEETING HERE.

HE THUS ALLAYED FEARS AMONG PUBLIC SECTOR EMPLOYEES THAT THE PAY CUT IMPOSED ON THE PRIME MINISTER, DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER, MINISTERS, DEPUTY MINISTERS AND PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARIES MIGHT BE EXTENDED TO THEM. --MORE 1428/AH

MAHATHIR - SALARY 2 ALUR SETAR

HOWEVER, DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR HOPED THAT THE PEOPLE WOULD UNDERSTAND THE COUNTRY'S ECONOMIC SITUATION AND THE PROBLEMS IT WAS FACING.

THE PEOPLE, HE SAID, SHOULD BE PREPARED TO WORK HARD AND TO FACE CHALLENGES TO SAFEGUARD THE NATION'S WELL-BEING.

+IF THE PEOPLE, PARTICULARLY CIVIL SERVANTS, ARE PREPARED TO WORK HARD AND REFRAIN FROM ACTIONS SUCH AS STRIKES, THE COUNTRY'S PRODUCTIVITY WOULD BE INCREASED WITH THE BENEFITS ACCRUING TO ALL,+ HE SAID.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR SAID IT WOULD BE MEANINGLESS IF THE NATION'S LEADERS AND GOVERNMENT OFFICERS WORKED HARD WHILE THE PEOPLE WERE LAZY. --MORE 1434/AH

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MAHATHIR - SALARY 3 ALUR SETAR

+THE PEOPLE AND THE GOVERNMENT SHARE AN EQUAL RESPONSIBILITY IN STRIVING TOWARDS THE COUNTRY'S SUCCESS IN ALL FIELDS,+ THE PRIME MINISTER ADDED.

HE HOPED THAT MALAYSIANS WOULD EMULATE THE JAPANESE IN MAKING PERSONAL SACRIFICES FOR THE SUCCESS OF THE NATION. --BERNAMA 1436/AH