

MAHATHIR - TRAINEES

BM

83 (P)
KUALA LUMPUR, MARCH 5 (BERNAMA) -- (DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMAD TODAY URGED THE FIRST BATCH OF TRAINEES SENT TO JAPAN UNDER THE LOOK EAST POLICY TO BE EXAMPLES FOR OTHER WORKERS TO FOLLOW.

WELCOMING THEM ON THEIR RETURN AT PARLIAMENT HOUSE HERE, THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THE SUCCESS OF THE GOVERNMENT'S EFFORTS IN INSTILLING GOOD WORK ETHICS AMONG WORKERS IN THE COUNTRY WOULD DEPEND ON THEM.

HE TOLD THEM THAT THE COUNTRY HAD GREAT FAITH IN THEM AS PIONEERS IN THE NEW APPROACH WHICH HAD BEEN PRACTISED BY JAPANESE WORKERS.

"AS THE FIRST BATCH WHO HAS BEEN EXPOSED TO THE ATTITUDE AND METHODS OF HOW THE JAPANESE WORK, YOU HAVE A SPECIAL POSITION IN DETERMINING WHETHER THE TRAINING PROGRAMME WAS A SUCCESS OR NOT," HE SAID. -- MORE 1800/MB
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ZCZC N143 (F)

MAHATHIR - TRAINEES 2 KUALA LUMPUR

"YOU WILL NOT ONLY BE WATCHED BY YOUR COLLEAGUES BUT ALSO BY THE WHOLE NATION," HE SAID.

THE BATCH OF 111 TRAINEES OF A TOTAL OF 136 WERE SENT TO JAPAN FOR TRAINING WITH COMPANIES THERE TO EXPOSE THEM TO THE ATTITUDE TO AND METHODS OF WORK OF THE JAPANESE WORKERS. TWENTY-FOUR OF THEM HAD BEEN SELECTED FOR FURTHER TRAINING WHILE ONE WOULD BE FINISHING TRAINING SOON.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR SAID HE WANTED THE TRAINEES TO SHOW TO OTHER WORKERS THE QUALITIES OF HARDWORK, LOYALTY TO DIRECTIVES, TEAMWORK, MAINTAINING GOOD IMAGE OF THE MANAGEMENT AND PRIDE IN THEMSELVES AND IN THE COMPANIES OF THE JAPANESE WORKERS.

THOSE QUALITIES WERE RESPONSIBLE IN ENABLING THE JAPANESE ACHIEVE TREMENDOUS SUCCESS AND MALAYSIANS SHOULD PRACTISE THEM IF THEY WISH TO SUCCEED, HE ADDED. -- MORE 1803/MB
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ZCZC N144 (F)
MAHATHIR - TRAINEES 3 KUALA LUMPUR

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR ALSO REMINDED THEM TO CONDUCT THEMSELVES WELL AT WORK BECAUSE THEY WERE GIVEN SPECIAL TRAINING AND WOULD FACE VARIOUS CHALLENGES.

HE SAID THAT THEY MIGHT BE SUBJECTED TO JOKES THAT THEY PLACED TOO MUCH IMPORTANCE IN THEIR WORK AND MIGHT BE INCITED TO ABANDON THE GOOD WORK ETHICS ACQUIRED IN JAPAN.

THEY MUST ALSO NOT BE SNOBBISH FOR SUCH AN ATTITUDE WOULD ONLY CREATE PROBLEMS IN THEIR PLACE OF WORK, HE ADDED.

SHOULD THIS HAPPENED ALL THEIR TRAINING WOULD BE WASTED, HE SAID.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR ALSO ADVISED THEM NOT TOO PLACED TOO MUCH IMPORTANCE IN REWARDS. THEY SHOULD INSTEAD FIND SATISFACTION BY DOING WELL IN THEIR WORK.

MANY, HE SAID, WOULD TAKE THE OPPORTUNITY TO CRITICIZE THE MOVE OF SENDING THEM TO JAPAN AS A WASTE AND THAT THE LOOK-EAST POLICY COULD NOT BE DEPENDED ON SHOULD THEY FAIL TO GET GOOD EXAMPLES.

-- MORE 1820/MB

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MAHATHIR - TRAINEES 4 KUALA LUMPUR

EARLIER, MINISTER IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S DEPARTMENT DATUK ABDULLAH AHMAD BADAWI TOLD REPORTERS THAT THE ASSESSMENT REPORT ON THE TRAINEES BY THE VARIOUS JAPANESE COMPANIES WERE ENCOURAGING.

THEIR PERFORMANCE ON THE WHOLE WAS SATISFACTORY BUT THERE WERE ROOMS FOR IMPROVEMENT, HE ADDED.

DATUK ABDULLAH SAID THAT THE TRAINEES GENERALLY HAD LANGUAGE PROBLEM ESPECIALLY IN UNDERSTANDING TECHNICAL WODS IN JAPANESE.

HE ADDED THAT THE PUBLIC SERVICE DEPARTMENT WOULD DISTRIBUTE FORMS TO THEM TO FIND OUT THEIR PROBLEMS AND TO TAKE STEPS