

MAHATHIR - POLICY

BM

(EMBARGO FOR RELEASE AT 5 P.M., JULY 15), (983

BY REJAL ARBEE AND ABDUL RAHMAN SULAIMAN

KUALA LUMPUR, JULY 15 (BERNAMA) - DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMAD IS GRATIFIED THAT PEOPLE ARE BEGINNING TO ACCEPT THE CHANGES INTRODUCED BY HIS ADMINISTRATION THESE PAST TWO YEARS.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID HE HAD PERSONALLY OBSERVED GROWING AWARENESS AMONG THE PEOPLE OF THE GOVERNMENT'S NEW POLICIES, WHICH ARE IN ACTUAL FACT ONLY NEW APPROACHES BASED ON EXISTING POLICIES.

+WE FIND AMONG BUSINESSMEN AND ENTREPRENEURS, FOR INSTANCE, A HEIGHTENED CONSCIOUSNESS OF THE IMPORTANCE OF STEPPING UP PRODUCTIVITY.

+THIS IS WHY THEY ORGANIZE SEMINARS ON PRODUCTIVITY,+ HE ADDED IN A SPECIAL INTERVIEW WITH BERNAMA AND THE UTUSAN MELAYU AND NEW STRAITS TIMES GROUPS IN CONJUNCTION WITH HIS SECOND YEAR IN OFFICE.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR WAS SWORN IN BEFORE THE YANG DI-PERTUAN AGONG AS THE FOURTH PRIME MINISTER OF MALAYSIA ON JULY 16, 1981, SUCCEEDING TUN HUSSEIN ONN WHO TOOK THE DECISION TO STEP DOWN BECAUSE OF HEALTH REASONS. - MORE 0808/BW

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SINCE THEN, HE HAS INTRODUCED A NUMBER OF CHANGES IN THE ADMINISTRATION AIMED AT ENHANCING PRODUCTIVITY OF THE PEOPLE AND MAKING MALAYSIA A NATION RESPECTED AND HIGHLY REGARDED BY THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY.

THE INNOVATIONS INCLUDE THE CLOCK-IN SYSTEM FOR ALL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, STANDARDIZATION OF THE TIME ZONE FOR PENINSULAR MALAYSIA, SABAH AND ASARAWAK, THE LOOK EAST POLICY, THE MALAYSIA INCORPORATED CONCEPT AND THE PRIVATIZATION CONCEPT.

IN THE INTERVIEW WHICH LASTED NEARLY TWO HOURS IN HIS OFFICE IN PARLIAMENT HOUSE HERE RECENTLY, THE PRIME MINISTER EXPRESSED FRANK VIEWS AND APPRAISALS REGARDING A NUMBER OF ISSUES INCLUDING CORRUPTION, THE STATE OF THE NATIONAL ECONOMY, THE MALAYSIA INCORPORATED CONCEPT AND THE PRIVATIZATION IDEA.

HE ALSO TOUCHED ON MATTERS CONSIDERED CONTROVERSIAL SUCH AS THE COST OF IMPROVING HIS RESIDENCE, THE FURORE OVER THE DETERMINATION OF THE START OF THE FASTING MONTH AND THE HARI RAYA AND THE MISFORTUNE WHICH BEFELL THE BANK BUMIPUTERA MALAYSIA BRANCH IN HONG KONG RECENTLY. - MORE 0811/BW