

83 P
KUALA LUMPUR, JULY 28 (BERNAMA) -- CIVIL SERVANTS WILL BE GIVEN THE OPTION TO REMAIN IN THE GOVERNMENT OR TO WORK WITH A NEW MANAGEMENT UNDER THE GOVERNMENT'S PRIVATISATION POLICY, DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMAD SAID TODAY.

THE PRIME MINISTER STRESSED THAT IT WAS NOT THE GOVERNMENT'S DESIRE TO ADVERSELY AFFECT ANYONE'S LOT IN DRAFTING THE POLICY. IN FACT, ALL WOULD BENEFIT FROM IT.

+WHAT WE HOPE IS THAT WORKERS WILL NOT USE THE GOVERNMENT TO GET MORE THAN WHAT THEY ARE ENTITLED TO, AS HAS HAPPENED BEFORE IN CERTAIN CASES,+ HE ADDED WHEN OPENING THE CUEPACS 16TH CONVENTION AT THE MERLIN HOTEL HERE.

HE SAID, +DO NOT DISRUPT DEVELOPMENT FOR THE PEOPLE FOR THE SAKE OF SELF-IMPORTANCE AND BENEFIT AS SUCH AN ATTITUDE WILL HINDER THE NATION'S PROGRESS..

+IF THIS HAPPENS, ULTIMATELY THE WORKERS THEMSELVES WILL BE THE LOSERS.+ -- MORE 2241/MK

ZCZC N199

MAHATHIR - PRIVATISATION 2 KUALA LUMPUR

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR SAID THE PRIVATISATION PROGRAMME HAD TO BE MADE INTO AN ALTERNATIVE FOR THE GOVERNMENT AS THE PATTERN OF SERVICES CONDUCTED BY THE GOVERNMENT HAD CHANGED AND NOW REQUIRED HIGH FINANCING.

FOR EXAMPLE, A MAJOR TELEPHONE PROJECT IN 1960 REQUIRED A COMMITMENT OF \$10 MILLION.

FACED WITH THIS PROBLEM, THE GOVERNMENT HAD THREE CHOICES. FIRST, TO POSTPONE DEVELOPMENT, SECOND TO INCUR DEBTS AND THIRD, TO HAND OVER THE PROJECTS TO THE PRIVATE SECTOR.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR EXPLAINED THAT IF DEVELOPMENT WAS POSTPONED, THE NATION AND THE PEOPLE WOULD NOT PROGRESS. IF DEBTS WERE TOO MUCH, THE MOUNTING FINANCIAL BURDEN SHOULDERED BY THE NATION WOULD BE TOO MUCH TO BEAR.

THE PRIME MINISTER ALSO TALKED OF THE MALAYSIA INCORPORATED CONCEPT WHICH MEANT BETTER SERVICES WHICH COULD BE PROVIDED BY THE GOVERNMENT TO THE PRIVATE SECTOR AS SUCCESS WOULD BENEFIT THE NATION, THE GOVERNMENT AND CIVIL SERVANTS. -- MORE 2248/MK

MAHATHIR - PRIVATISATION 3 KUALA LUMPUR

HE SAID GOVERNMENT SERVANTS SHOULD REMEMBER THAT THEIR SALARIES WERE PAID FROM TAXES ON THE PRIVATE SECTOR. OF THE \$6.7 MILLION PAID OUT AS SALARIES, ALLOWANCES AND PENSIONS TO THE PUBLIC SECTOR LAST YEAR, \$5.2 MILLION CAME OUT OF REVENUE DERIVED FROM THE PRIVATE SECTOR.

IN VIEW OF THIS, HE SAID IT WAS APPROPRIATE FOR GOVERNMENT SERVANTS TO GIVE GOOD TREATMENT TO THE PRIVATE SECTOR AS ANY FACTOR WHICH COULD HINDER THE PRIVATE SECTOR FROM MAKING PROFITS WOULD LESEN THE MONEY FOR GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURES.

HE ADDED, +DO NOT FEEL A TINGE OF JEALOUSY IF OUR ASSISTANCE HELPS THE PRIVATE SECTOR TO GET MILLIONS AS 45 PER CENT OF THEIR PROFITS BELONG TO THE GOVERNMENT. AND THE GOVERNMENT DOES NOT INVEST EVEN A SINGLE CENT.+ -- BERNAMA 2253/MK