

SOUTH

EMBARGO: FOR RELEASE AT 8 P.M. TODAY

83 (9)
KUALA LUMPUR, SEPT. 8 (BERNAMA) -- (DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMAD HAS BEEN REGARDED AN INNOVATIVE PRIME MINISTER ESPECIALLY AMONG THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES.

THE PRESIDENT AND PUBLISHER OF 'SOUTH', A THIRD WORLD MONTHLY MAGAZINE, ENCIK HUMAYUM GAUHAR, SAID THE REFERENCE WAS TO HIS EFFORTS TO RAISE MALAYSIA TO A MORE SOPHISTICATED PLATEAU OF ECONOMIC ACTIVITY THAN ITS PRESENT STATUS AS A PRODUCER OF COMMODITIES AND SOME PROCESSED GOODS.

INDUSTRIALISATION HAD BEEN A DREAM AMONG FORMER COLONIES AND MALAYSIA'S INNOVATIONS WOULD BE WATCHED BY OTHER DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, HE ADDED.

HE SAID MALAYSIA WAS LUCKLY THAT THE PAST GOVERNMENTS HAD LEFT A GOOD ECONOMIC PLATFORM HERE WHICH INCLUDED A STRONG INFRASTRUCTURE OF COMMUNICATIONS AND FINANCE AND RAW MATERIAL RESOURCES +THAT HAVE NOT BEEN FRITTERED AWAY OR RUN DOWN THROUGH MISMANAGEMENT.+

ENCIK GAUHAR WAS SPEAKING AT A RECEPTION ATTENDED BY THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER, DATUK MUSA HITAM, TO COMMEMORATE THE SPECIAL ISSUE ON MALAYSIA IN THE MAGAZINE THIS MONTH. -- MORE 1759/PA

ZCZC NO97 (F/S)
SOUTH 2 KUALA LUMPUR

HE ALSO OUTLINED FOUR MAIN FACTORS THAT HAD CONTRIBUTED TO THE TRANQUILITY OF MALAYSIA, AND THEY WERE:
- THE WILLINGNESS OF THE ELITES OF THE THREE COMMUNITIES TO WORK OUT A CONSENSUS WITHIN THE SPIRIT OF ACCOMMODATION,
- TO TAKE AWAY CONTROVERSIAL ISSUES FROM THE POLITICS OF THE MOB;

- THE GOVERNMENT'S DETERMINATION TO ACT RESOLUTELY AGAINST PROVOCATIONS TO ETHNIC RESENTMENTS, AND

- THE MALAYSIAN COMMITMENT TO ECONOMIC GROWTH INCLUDING AN OVERALL STRATEGY TO INSTITUTE LONG-TERM SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC POLICIES TO ELIMINATE THE CAUSES OF ETHNIC HOSTILITY.

ON SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION, HE PRAISED THE MALAYSIAN GOVERNMENT'S EFFORTS AND FAR-SIGHTED COMMITMENT TO STRENGTHEN COOPERATION AMONG DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AS IT RECOGNISED THAT COOPERATION WAS THE ONLY LIFE-LINE THAT COULD PULL THEM FROM SINKING FURTHER INTO THE ABYSS OF POVERTY AND DEPENDENCE. -- MORE 1805/PA

SOUTH 3 KUALA LUMPUR

+MALAYSIA HAS SHOWN THAT IT WILL PUT ITS RESOURCES, ITS EXPERIENCE IN DEVELOPMENT AND THE MANAGERIAL SKILLS ACQUIRED TO FURTHER SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION AND ALSO MAKE IT A MAJOR THRUST IN MALAYSIA'S FOREIGN RELATIONS,+ HE ADDED.

ENCIK GAUHAR WARNED THAT SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION WAS IN THE DANGER OF BEING CHOKED BY TOO MUCH TALK AND TURNING IT INTO A POLITICAL PLATITUDE AND ANOTHER THIRD WORLD CLICHE.

+MANY THIRD WORLD SPOKESMEN ARE LONG IN TALK ABOUT SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION BUT SHORT IN BACKING UP THEIR WORDS WITH ACTION, BUT MALAYSIA'S COMMITMENT TO IT IS REAL AND IT IS MORE SUBSTANTIAL THAN JUST PUTTING OUT COMFORTING WORDS,+ HE ADDED.

HE HOPED MALAYSIA'S COMMITMENT TO THIS COOPERATION COULD SPUR OTHER DEVELOPING COUNTRIES TO SIMILAR ACTION.

THE MAGAZINE WAS LAUNCHED THREE YEARS AGO IN LONDON AND NOW HAS A MONTHLY CIRCULATION OF OVER 62,000 IN OVER 140 COUNTRIES. --MORE 1809/PA

ZCZC ND99 (F/S)

SOUTH 4 KUALA LUMPUR

IT IS PRODUCED BY THE THIRD WORLD FOUNDATION, A CHARITY DEVOTED TO SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC ADVANCEMENT OF THE PEOPLES OF THE THIRD WORLD.

THE FOUNDATION ALSO PRODUCES A QUARTERLY JOURNAL CALLED THE THIRD WORLD QUARTERLY, ESTABLISHED SCHOLARSHIPS IN THIRD WORLD STUDIES AT THE LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS AND ADMINISTERS THE THIRD WORLD PRIZE WHICH IS AWARDED ANNUALLY TO AN INDIVIDUAL OR INSTITUTION FOR MAKING A SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION TO A THIRD WORLD CAUSE.--BERNAMA 1811/PA