

REVIEW-MAHATHIR

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EMBARGO: FOR RELEASE AT 3.30 P.M. MARCH 29

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KUALA LUMPUR (MARCH 29 (BERNAMA))-- DATUKSERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD .  
SAYS THE PEOPLE SHOULD ACCEPT THE FACT THAT THE COUNTRY IS FACING ...  
DIFFICULT TIMES IN THE WAKE OF THE WORLD ECONOMIC RECESSION.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAYS THEY SHOULD SHARE THE BURDEN OF THE  
NECESSARY ADJUSTMENTS IF THEY ARE TO CONSOLIDATE THEIR ACHIEVEMENTS.,  
AND TO PREPARE THE FOUNDATION FOR A FASTER RECOVERY AND GROWTH.

IN HIS FOREWORD TO THE MID-TERM REVIEW OF THE FOURTH MALAYSIA PLAN  
TABLED IN PARLIAMENT TODAY, DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID THE  
ADJUSTMENTS MUST INCLUDE INNOVATIVE ECONOMIC MEASURES WHICH WILL  
ASSIST MATERIAL GROWTH.

+IN ADDITION, THE ADJUSTMENTS ALSO COVER THE ADOPTION OF  
PROGRESSIVE VALUES BY ALL MALAYSIANS TO SUSTAIN THE CHANGES THAT ARE  
REQUIRED.+

THE EVIDENCE AND SIGNS FOR THE COUNTRY TO CHANGE ARE ALREADY CLEAR  
AND MALAYSIANS MUST BE AWARE OF THESE CHANGING CIRCUMSTANCES, HE  
SAID. -- MORE 0830/NB

REVIEW-MAHATHIR 2 KUALA UMPUR (EMBARGO)

THE PRIME MINISTER ALSO STRESSED THE NEED FOR THE GOVERNMENT WITH THE HELP AND COOPERATION OF THE PEOPLE TO CONTINUE TO MAINTAIN THE HERITAGE OF STABILITY, A HERITAGE THAT THEY CAN BE PROUD OF AND WHICH THEY CAN BESTOW ON FUTURE GENERATIONS OF SCOEITY.

**STABILITY, HE SAID, IS A CRUCIAL NEED FOR ANY COUNTRY IF IT IS TO CONTINUE TO PROSPER.**

THE DEVELOPMENT EXPERIENCE OF MANY THIRD WORLD COUNTRIES IN THE POST-WAR YEARS HAS BEEN CHARACTERISED BY A GREAT DEAL OF INSTABILITY AND TURMOIL.

**+MALAYSIA, FORTUNATELY, HAS BEEN SPARED THESE, EXPERIENCES. WE HAVE, DESPITE CIRCUMSTANCES WHICH COULD RESULT IN DISINTEGRATION, SUCCESSFULLY MAINTAINED STABILITY.+**

EARLIER, **DATUK SERI** DR MAHATHIR SAID THAT SINCE THE LAUNCHING OF THE FOURTH MALAYSIA PLAN, THE GLOBAL ECONOMIC CONDITION HAS WORSENERD.

ALTHOUGH THE UNCERTAINTY IN THE WORLD ECONOMIC CONDITION WAS ANTICIPATED, THE SEVERITY AND DURATION OF THE DOWNSWING IN THE GLOBAL ECONOMY WAS MORE PRONOUNCED AND PERVASIVE THAN EXPECTED, AND THIS HAD ADVERSLY AFFECTED THE PERFORMANCE OF THE MALAYSIAN ECONOMY, HE SAID.-- MORE 0835/NB

ZCZC N 026

REVIEW -MAHATHIR 3 KU-ALA LUMPUR

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THAT THE PEFORMANCE OF THE MALAYSIAN, ECONOMY, EVEN THOUGH AT RATES LOWER THAN THOSE IN THE PAST, CONTINUED TO BE CREDITABLE WHEN COMPARED WITH SOME COUNTRIES WHICH HAVE SUFFERED EITHER STAGNATION OR EVEN REGISTERED NEGATIVE RATES OF GHROWTH.

**+MALAYSIANS CONTINUE TO ENJOY A RELATIVELY HIGH STANDARD OF LIVING.+**

**DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID THAT THE DIFFICULT ECONOMIC CONDITIONS, FACING THE NATION HAVE MADE IT NECESSARY TO ADOPT A DIFFERENT APPROACH.**

TO CUSHION THE ADVERSE EFFECTS OF THE DOWNSWING IN THE GLOBAL ECONOMY, THE GOVERNMENT, HE SAID, HAS TAKEN THE DIFFICULT STEP OF REDUCING SH ARPLY ITS DEVELOPM ENT AND OPERATING EXPENDITURES.

A GENERAL RESTRAIN ON UNNECESSARY EXPENDITURE THROUGHOUT THE ADMINISTRATION HAS BEEN INITIATED.

THESE MEASURES ARE NECESSARY IN THE LIGHT OF THE ECONOMIC SLOWDOWN AND THE TIGHTENING OF THE FINANCIAL RESOURCES OF THE GOVERNMENT.

**+NEVERTHELESS, CARE HAS BEEN TAKEN TO ENSURE THAT THE REDUCTION AND RESTRAINT IN EXPENDITURES WILL NOT ADVERSELY AFFECT THE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES UNDERTAKEN IN PURSUIT OF THE OBJECTIVES OF THE NEW ECONOMIC POLICY.-- MORE 0840/NB**

ZCZC N 027

REVIEW-MAHATHIR 4 KUALA LUMPUR (EMBARGO)

THE 424-PAGE REPORT CONTAINS 17 CHAPTERS.

APART FROH LISTING THE PROGRESS THAT HAS BEEN ACHIEVED IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FOURTH MALAYSIA PLAN FROM 1981 TO 1983, IT ALSO INDICATES NEW DIRECTIONS IN DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF STRATEGIES.

COMPILED BY THE ECONOMIC PLANNING UNIT WITH THE COOPERATION OF OTHER GOVERNMENT AGENCIES, THE REPORT TOOK TWO YEARS TO COMPLETE=

THIS MID-TERM REVIEW IS A DEPARTURE FROM SUCH REPORTS IN THE PAST AS IT CONTAINS CHARTS AND ILLUSTRATIONS.-- BERNAMA 0848/NB