

MAHATHIR

BM

84 (10)
KELANG, APRIL 1 (BERNAMA)--MALAYSIA IS CREATING VARIOUS ITEMS AND EQUIPMENT SUITABLE TO BE USED BY MUSLIMS AND WILL BE EXPORTED TO MUSLIM COUNTRIES, DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMAD SAID TODAY.

SEVERAL AGENCIES, INCLUDING SIME DARBY, WERE INVOLVED IN THE EFFORTS, THE PRIME MINISTER SAID.

THE ITEMS INCLUDED SANITARY PRODUCTS, HE TOLD REPORTERS AFTER OPENING THE KARUNMAS (M) SDN. BHD, A WEAVING AND EMBROIDERY PLANT, IN JALAN KOTA HERE.

IN HIS SPEECH IN OPENING THE BUMIPUTERA-OWNED FACTORY, DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMAD SAID THAT A LARGE PORTION OF THE GOODS USED BY THE 900 MILLION MUSLIMS IN THE WORLD WERE MADE AND CREATED BY NON-ISLAMIC COUNTRIES.

THESE COUNTRIES CONTROLLED THE ISLAMIC WORLD MARKET ALTHOUGH THE GOODS THEY PRODUCED WERE NOT IN LINE WITH THE MUSLIM WAY OR LIFE OR SITUATION, HE ADDED. -- MORE 1705/PA

MAHATHIR-2-KELANG

HE SAID THAT IN MALAYSIA, WHERE MORE THAN 50 PER CENT OF THE PEOPLE WERE MUSLIMS, A LARGE PART OF THE MODERN EQUIPMENT USED WERE CREATED BY FOREIGNERS.

THE GOVERNMENT, TOGETHER WITH SEVERAL AGENCIES AND CORPORATIONS, WERE TAKING STEPS TO CREATE VARIOUS EQUIPMENT SUITABLE FOR USE BY MUSLIMS, HE SAID.

THESE EQUIPMENTS WOULD BE MARKETED TO ISLAMIC COUNTRIES, HE ADDED.

DETAILS ON THE GOODS WOULD BE ANNOUNCED LATER, HE SAID.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR ALSO SPOKE OF THE NEED TO USE AND MODIFY MODERN TECHNOLOGY TO PRODUCE GOODS IN LINE WITH THE NEEDS OF THE PEOPLE.

THE UNITED STATES, JAPAN, SOUTH KOREA AND THE OTHER WESTERN COUNTRIES PRODUCED GOODS ACCORDING TO THEIR TASTES AND SOME OF THEM MIGHT NOT BE THAT SUITABLE TO THE LOCAL CONDITIONS, HE SAID. -- MORE
MAHATHIR-3-KELANG

FOR EXAMPLE, HE SAID, CARS AND OTHER VEHICLES USED IN MALAYSIA WERE MADE FOR USE IN COUNTRIES WITH COLD CLIMATES.

IN MAKING THE MALAYSIAN CAR, CONSIDERATION WOULD BE GIVEN TO THE CLIMATE FACTOR SO THAT IT WOULD BE SUITABLE NOT ONLY FOR USE IN THIS COUNTRY BUT OTHER COUNTRIES WITH SIMILAR CLIMATE, HE ADDED.

HE SAID THAT THE OBJECTIVE OF THE GOVERNMENT WAS TO EXPORT THE CAR TO TROPICAL COUNTRIES AND BELIEVED THAT IT WOULD HAVE WIDE MARKETS...

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR ALSO PRAISED SYARIKAT KARUNMAS FOR USING MODERN TECHNOLOGY IN A TRADITIONAL FIELD.

HE DESCRIBED THE PROJECT AS A MARRIAGE BETWEEN CRAFTSMEN AND INVESTORS TO PRODUCE WOVEN CLOTH AND EMBROIDERY SPEEDILY AND EFFICIENTLY. -- MORE 1728/PA

MAHATHIR-4-KELANG

THE MACHINES IMPORTED HAD BEEN MODIFIED TO PRODUCE WOVEN CLOTH AND EMBROIDERY WHICH HAD ALL THESE WHILE BEEN PRODUCED BY HANG..

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR SAID THAT THE TIME FOR THE MALAYS TO MONOPOLIZE OR KEEP WITHIN THEIR FAMILIES CERTAIN SKILLS HAD PASED. ON THE OTHER HAND, THEY SHOULD ADAPT THEIR SKILLS WITH MODERN TECHNOLOGY TO MEET THE MARKET DEMAND AND ATTAIN BIGGER PROFITS, HE ADDED.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THE GOVERNMENT WAS ENCOURAGING THE PRODUCTION OF TRADITIONAL HANDICRAFT IN THE KAMPUNGS AND THE NATIONAL AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT MINISTRY HAD BEEN ENTRUSTED WITH THE TASK OF DEVELOPING THE INDUSTRY.

HE ALSO ADVISED WORKERS TO WORK HARD AS THE SUCCESS OF THEIR COMPANIES WOULD BENEFIT THEM TOO. --- MORE 1755/PA
MAHATHIR-5-KELANG

HE ALSO ADVISED DIRECTORS OF BUMIPUTERA COMPANIES, TO REFRAIN FROM QUARRELLING AMONG ONE ANOTHER TO ENSURE THE SUCCESS OF THEIR COMPANIES.

HE SAID THAT THIS WOULD RESULT IN THE BREAK UP OF THEIR COMPANIES WHICH WOULD ULTIMATELY AFFECT THE INDUSTRY THEY WERE INVOLVED IN.

FOR EXAMPLE, HE SAID, THEY WERE NOW ABOUT 80 FILM COMPANIES BUT-- ONLY TWO TO THREE FILMS WERE PRODUCED A YEAR,

PRESENT WAS SELANGOR MENTERI BESAR DAXUK HAJI AHMAD RAZALI MOHAMAD ALI AND NATIONAL AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT MINISTER DATUK SANUSI JUNID. --BERNAMA 1810/PA