

MAHATHIR - BLUE-COLLAR
BM

84 (P)
BANGI, APRIL 8 (BERNAMA) -- (DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMAD SAID TODAY HE HOPED TO SEE BLUE-COLLAR WORKERS IN THE COUNTRY ONE DAY ATTAINING A STATUS SIMILAR? IF NOT SUPERIOR, TO THAT OF WHITE-COLLAR WORKERS.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THAT THE PEOPLE SHOULD CHANGE THEIR ATTITUDE AND NOT LOOK DOWN ON BLUE COLLAR WORKERS.

+IF FACT, WE IN THIS COUNTRY DO NOT SEEK BLUE-COLLAR JOBS. MOST OF US STILL WANT TO BECOME CLERKS IN THE OFFICE AND OTHER WHITE-COLLAR JOBS, + HE ADDED.

+WE SHOULD HOLD IN HIGHEST EEM AND NOT LOOK DOWN ON ANY JOB SO LONG AS IT IS A LAWFUL ONE, + HE SAID WHEN LAUNCHING THE NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT COOPERATIVE AT UNIVERSITI KEBANGSAAN HERE.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR SAID HE RESPECTED ALL JOBS AND URGED ALL WORKERS TO WORK HARD IN WHATEVER FIELD THEY WERE.

-- MORE 1550/MB

MAHATHIR - BLUE COLLAR 2 BANGI

HE BROUGHT UP THE MATTER OF BLUE-COLLAR JOBS WHEN HE SAW MANY OF THE MEMBERS OF THE VARIOUS CO-OPERATIVES DRESSED IN A BLUE UNIFORM SIMILAR TO THAT WORN BY CABINET MINISTERS.

HE NORMALLY WEARS THE UNIFORM WHEN DOING WORK AWAY FROM THE OFFICE AND TODAY HE IS ALSO DRESSED IN THAT ATTIRE.

THE UNIFORM WAS FIRST WORN BY THE MINISTERS, DEPUTY MINISTERS AND PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARIES DURING THE 1982 NATIONAL DAY CELEBRATIONS, TO SYMBOLIZE MALAYSIA'S NEW INDUSTRIAL COMMUNITY.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR SAID HE HAD BEEN ASKED WHY HE LIKED TO WEAR THE UNIFORM WHICH WAS LIKE THAT OF A WORKER.

HE SAID THAT THE WEARING OF UNIFORM WAS NOT ONLY FOR WORKERS BUT IT SHOULD BE WORN BY ALL TO REFLECT THAT MALAYSIA WAS A DEVELOPING COUNTRY THAT AIMED TO WORK HARD. -- MORE 1645/MB

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MAHATHIR - BLUE-COLLAR 3 BANGS

+AS SUCH, EVERYONE CAN WEAR UNIFORMS AND SHOULD NOT LOOK DOWN ON JOBS WHERE UNIFORMS ARE WORN, + HE ADDED.

+THE BLUE UNIFORM I CREATED FOR THE CABINET CAN ALSO BE WORN BY ALL AND IT IS NOT EXCLUSIVE FOR US ONLY, + HE SAID.

-- BERNAMA 1650/MB