

MAHATHIR - HARVARD
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84
(EMBARGO: FOR RELEASE AFTER 10.30 P.M. TODAY, JULY 28)

KUALA LUMPUR, JULY 28 (BERNAMA) --DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR

MOHAMAD SAID TONIGHT ENTREPRENEURS IN THE COUNTRY WILL ATTAIN ONLY LIMITED SUCCESS IF THEY CONTINUE TO DEPEND ON THE GOVERNMENT AND DO NOT WANT TO BECOME SELF-RELIANT.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THAT BESIDES DISCARDING SUCH ATTITUDES, THEY SHOULD ALSO STRIVE TO UPGRADE PRODUCTIVITY AND THE QUALITY OF THEIR PRODUCTS.

+WE MUST ASK OURSELVES HOW THE ENTREPRENEURS IN THE OTHER COUNTRIES BECAME SUCCESSFUL,+ HE SAID AT THE DINNER OF THE HARVARD BUSINESS SCHOOL ALUMNI CLUB HERE.

HE SAID THE FOREIGN ENTREPRENEURS, LIKE THEIR COUNTERPARTS HERE, ALSO FACED VARIOUS CHALLENGES AND PROBLEMS BUT THEY SUCCEEDED BECAUSE OF THEIR WILLINGNESS TO WORK HARD.

THEY PROGRESSED, HE SAID, NOT BECAUSE THEY HAD MORE INCENTIVES THAN THEIR COUNTERPARTS HERE BUT BECAUSE THEY HAD SOMETHING MORE -- THE WILL TO WORK HARD. --- MORE

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AS SUCH, HE SAID, IF THE ENTREPRENEURS WISHED TO PROGRESS, THEY SHOULD IMPROVE THEIR PERFORMANCE AND OPERATE AS A TEAM IN LINE WITH THE +MALAYSIA INCORPORATED+ CONCEPT.

THEY SHOULD SHARE THEIR EXPERIENCE AND NEW IDEAS FOR THE BENEFIT OF ALL AND INTENSIFY RESEARCH EFFORTS NOT ONLY IN FIELDS THEY WERE WELL ACQUAINTED WITH BUT ALSO NEW ONES THAT HAD NOT BEEN VENTURED INTO, HE ADDED.

THE PRIME MINISTER ALSO REMINDED THEM THAT THERE WAS NO SHORT CUT TO SUCCESS.

SUCCESS IN WHATEVER FIELDS, HE SAID, REQUIRED HARD WORK, DEDICATION, RESPONSIBILITY, TRUST AND THE WILLINGNESS TO SACRIFICE PERSONAL INTERESTS FOR THE INTEREST OF OTHERS.

HE SAID THIS WAS NOT SOMETHING NEW AND WAS KNOWN BY ALL BUT THE PEOPLE MUST BE CONSTANTLY REMINDED BECAUSE IT IS OFTEN FORGOTTEN, -- MORE

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THE PRIME MINISTER ALSO EXPRESSED REGRET THAT XT HAD BECOME A HABIT FOR THE PEOPLE IN THE COUNTRY, BEFORE EMBARKING ON ANYTHING, TO ASK FOR ASSISTANCE AND PROTECTION.

FOR EXAMPLE, HE SAID, THERE WERE BUSINESSMEN WHO ASKED FOR PROTECTION BEFORE THEY WERE WILLING TO VENTURE INTO A BUSINESS OR INDUSTRIAL PROJECT.

+WITHOUT PROTECTION AND ASSISTANCE, THEY 'ARE NOT WILLING' TO DO SO,+ HE SAID.

+THIS NEGATIVE PRACTICE HAD BEEN GOING ON FOR A LONG TIME AND THE RESULT IS THAT WE ARE LEFT BEHIND:+ HE ADDED.

HE CONCEDED THAT ENTREPRENEURS IN THE COUNTRY HAD ATTAINED SUCCESS IN SEVERAL FIELDS BUT ADDED THAT WHEN FACED WITH COMPETITION THEN WOULD THEY KNOW JUST HOW FAR THEY HAD BEEN SUCCESSFUL. -- MORE

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+AND WHEN THERE IS COMPETITION, CALLS ARE HEARD FROM CERTAIN QUARTERS ASKING THE GOVERNMENT TO DO SOMETHING TO HELP THEM,+ HE SAID.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR REMINDED THAT INCENTIVES FOR INVESTORS AND THE REGULATIONS DRAWN UP WERE MEANT PRINCIPALLY TO HELP PROJECTS RUN MORE SMOOTHLY AND EFFECTIVELY.

+REGULATIONS ALONE CANNOT DETERMINE OR ENSURE THE SUCCESS OF A PROGRAMME OR PROJECT AND THEY ALSO CANNOT DETERMINE WHETHER A COUNTRY WILL PROGRESS OR REGRESS,+ HE SAID.

+WHAT IS IMPORTANT IS THE WILLINGNESS OF THE WORKERS TO WORK HARD AND WITH DEDICATION TO ACHIEVE SUCCESS,+ HE ADDED. -- BERNAMA