

MAHATHIR
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(P)

KUALA LUMPUR, JULY 31 (BERNAMA) -- DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD SAID TODAY THAT IT IS THE PEOPLE'S ATTITUDES THAT NEED TO BE CHANGED -- NOT THE GOVERNMENT'S POLICIES.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THE GOVERNMENT HAD FORMULATED MORE THAN ADEQUATE POLICIES TO HELP THE PEOPLE BUT THEY THEMSELVES MUST BE HARDWORKING, TRUSTWORTHY AND EAGER TO ACQUIRE SKILLS TO SUCCEED IN ANY FIELD THEY VENTURED INTO.

HE URGED THE PEOPLE TO STRIVE TO UPGRADE THEIR CAPABILITY RATHER THAN DEPEND TOO MUCH ON GOVERNMENT POLICIES OR ACTIONS.

+ I AM CONFIDENT THAT IF THE PEOPLE, ESPECIALLY BUMIPUTERA BUSINESSMEN, CAN UPGRADE THEIR CAPABILITY, THE GOVERNMENT NEED NOT HAVE NEW POLICIES OR MODIFY EXISTING POLICIES BECAUSE THESE ARE MORE THAN ADEQUATE, + HE SAID WHEN OPENING THE SYMPOSIUM ON BUMIPUTERAS AND THE NATIONAL ECONOMY AT THE REGENT HOTEL HERE. -- MORE
1326MST 31 07 84

D229

R E539 DEE
MAHATHIR 2 KUALA LUMPUR

HE BELIEVED THAT THE SUCCESSFUL BUMIPUTERA BUSINESSMEN DID NOT GET WHERE THEY WERE TODAY SIMPLY BECAUSE OF GOVERNMENT POLICIES, BUT ALSO BECAUSE OF QUALITIES THAT THEY HAD.

URGING BUMIPUTERAS TO BE SELF-CRITICAL, THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THAT A COMPARATIVE STUDY WOULD SHOW THAT PEOPLE WHO SUCCEEDED HAD UPGRADED THEIR CAPABILITY WHILE THOSE WHO FAILED HAD NOT.

+ FROM MY VISITS OVERSEAS, I FOUND THAT THE SUCCESS OF A NATION DEPENDS ON THE QUALITIES THAT ITS PEOPLE HAVE. IT SUCCEEDS IF THE PEOPLE ARE DILIGENT, TRUSTWORTHY, WELL-EDUCATED AND KNOWLEDGEABLE, + HE SAID.

+ BUT IF THE PEOPLE ARE MORE CONCERNED WITH AGITATING AND MAKING COMPLAINTS HERE AND THERE, THE NATION DECLINES HOWEVER SUCCESSFUL IT WAS IN THE PAST. + -- MORE

1424MST 31 07 84

D236

R E541 DEE
MAHATHIR 3 KUALA LUMPUR

HE EXPRESSED REGRET AT ALLEGATIONS, INCLUDING FROM BUMIPUTERAS, THAT THE NEW ECONOMIC POLICY (NEP) ONLY BENEFITTED A FEW BUMIPUTERAS.

+QUITE A NUMBER OF BUMIPUTERAS GOT EXCITED AND SUPPORTED THE ALLEGATIONS, BUT I WOULD LIKE TO STRESS THAT WITHOUT THE NEP THEY WOULD NOT HAVE RECEIVED HIGHER EDUCATION AND WOULD NOT HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO BLAME THE NEP, + HE TOLD THE 400 PARTICIPANTS OF THE TWO-DAY SYMPOSIUM ORGANISED BY THE FEDERAL TERRITORY BRANCH OF THE MALAY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY,

+IN FACT, THE PRESENCE OF SO MANY REPUTABLE BUSINESSMEN AT THIS SYMPOSIUM IS A MEASURE OF THE SUCCESS OF THE GOVERNMENT IN ENFORCING ITS POLICIES, + HE SAID.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID THAT ALL GOVERNMENT POLICIES, INCLUDING THE NEP, WERE NOT MEANT ONLY FOR THE WELL-TO-DO AND WAS AIMED AT ENSURING THAT ALL THE PEOPLE BENEFITTED FROM THE NATION'S ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.

THUS FAR, 1.5 MILLION BUMIPUTERAS HAD INVESTED IN THE NATIONAL UNIT TRUST (ASN) WHICH HE SAID WAS THE WORLD'S BIGGEST UNIT TRUST. ---
MORE

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THAT THERE WERE STILL MANY BUMIPUTERAS WHO HAD NOT INVESTED IN THE ASN ALTHOUGH ONLY \$10 WAS REQUIRED FOR THE FIRST INVESTMENT. BUT THIS WAS BY THEIR OWN CHOICE AND HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH WHETHER THE GOVERNMENT WAS GOOD OR BAD OR WHETHER IT WAS HELPING THE PEOPLE OR NOT.

HE REMINDED BUMIPUTERA BUSINESSMEN TO GIVE DUE ATTENTION TO GOOD MANAGEMENT AND TO COOPERATE WITH THEIR BUSINESS PARTNERS.

HE SAID THAT THERE HAD BEEN CASES OF BUSINESS PARTNERS SETTING UP OTHER COMPANIES JUST SO THEY COULD BE THE PRESIDENT OR CHAIRMAN OF THESE COMPANIES.

HE SAID THAT BUSINESSMEN, ESPECIALLY THOSE NEW IN THE FIELD, SHOULD BE WILLING TO COOPERATE, GIVE AND TAKE AND ACCEPT THE VIEWS OF OTHERS. --- BERNAMA