

MAHATHIR
BM

84

(P)

EMBARGO: FOR RELEASE AFTER 10 P.M. TODAY 3. SEPT. 84

KUALA LUMPUR, SEPT. 8 (BERNAMA) -- DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD SAID TONIGHT THE PRESENT GENERATION WHICH IS STRIVING TO REVIVE THE GLORY OF THEIR CULTURAL HERITAGE SHOULD ALSO ATTEMPT TO LEAVE THEIR OWN TRADITIONS FOR THE FUTURE GENERATIONS TO SAVOUR.

THE PRESENT GENERATION, THE PRIME MINISTER SAID, SHOULD ENDEAVOUR TO CARVE OUT A NICHE FOR THE FUTURE SOCIETY AND NOT ONLY FOR THE PRESENT.

IN THIS WAY, THE PEOPLE WOULD BE ABLE TO ACCEPT, UNDERSTAND AND HOLD IN ESTEEM THEIR CREATIONS, HE ADDED.

LAUNCHING THE YAYASAN SENIHERE, HE SAID THAT THE DEVELOPMENT OF ART AND CULTURE COULD NOT BE LEFT TO ART AND CULTURAL ENTHUSIASTS OR THE GOVERNMENT ALONE.

THE PRIVATE SECTOR, INCLUDING THE MEDIA AND IN PARTICULAR TELEVISION, SHOULD INTENSIFY EFFORTS TOWARDS THIS END THROUGH FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE OR PROVISION OF FACILITIES, HE SAID. -- MORE 2053MS.T 08 09 84

D907

R E252 D E E
MAHATHIR 2 KUALA-LUMPUR (EMBARGO)

HE STRESSED THE NEED FOR COOPERATION TO UNEARTH NEW TALENTS, NURTURE THEM AND EXPOSE THEM TO THE PUBLIC.

THE PRIME MINISTER CITED AS AN EXAMPLE THAT THE GOVERNMENT GRANTED LICENCE TO TV3 NOT BECAUSE OF THE COMMERCIAL CONSIDERATIONS BUT BECAUSE IT COULD ASSIST THE GOVERNMENT IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF A NATIONAL IDENTITY.

TV3 COULD ASSIST CULTURAL BODIES SUCH AS YAYASAN SENI BY TELECASTING PERFORMANCES THAT REFLECTED THE NATIONAL IDENTITY, HE ADDED.

IN THIS WAY, NOT ONLY WOULD THE PEOPLE BE ABLE TO APPRECIATE THE ART AND CULTURE BUT IT WOULD ALSO MOTIVATE THE ART BODIES TO IMPROVE THEIR PERFORMANCES, HE SAID. -- MORE

2039MST 08 09 84

D908

R E253 D E E
MAHATHIR 3 KUALA LUMPUR (EMBARGO)

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR ALSO SAID THAT BESIDES PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT, THE PEOPLE ALSO NEEDED TO DEVELOP THEIR MIND THROUGH UNDERSTANDING AND APPRECIATION OF THE ARTS.

ON CALLS THAT THE GOVERNMENT BUILD A MODERN CULTURAL COMPLEX, HE SAID THE GOVERNMENT WOULD LIKE TO DO SO BUT BECAUSE OF THE FINANCIAL CONSTRAINTS IT HAD OTHER PRIORITIES TO CONSIDER FIRST.

HE ALSO EXPRESSED FEARS THAT SUCH A BUILDING COULD BECOME A WHITE ELEPHANT IF THERE WERE NOT ENOUGH PERFORMANCES -- OR IF THERE WAS POOR RESPONSE FROM THE PEOPLE TO THE PERFORMANCES. -- BERNAMA