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MAHATHIR
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JOHOR BAHRU, NOV. 3 (BERNAMA) . . PRIME MINISTER DATUKSERI DR
MAHATHIRMOHAMAD TODAY CALLED, FOR ENHANCED PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTOR
EFFORTS IN INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT.

HE NOTED THAT THEIR ALLOCATIONS FOR RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT
WERE STILL SMALL ALTHOUGH SEVERAL PUBLIC AND PRIVATE INSTITUTIONS
HAD ESTABLISHED DIVISIONS FOR SUCH UNDERTAKINGS.

DATUK SERI DRMAHATHIR WAS OPENING THE ROLLING STOCK
MANUFACTURING AND SERVICES COMPLEX OF THE MALAYSIA SHIPYARD AND
ENGINEERING SDN BHD, SOME 32 KM FROM HERE.

HE EMPHASIZED THE IMPORTANCE OF RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT IN THE
PROGRESS OF AN INDUSTRY, SAYING THESE EFFORTS HAD LAID THE
FOUNDATION FOR SEVERAL INDUSTRIES SUCH AS HIGH-TECHNOLOGY, AVIATION,
PHARMACEUTICAL AND ROADTRANSPORT INDUSTRIES.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THE GOVERNMENT HAD INTRODUCED TAX
INCENTIVES TO ENCOURAGE THE PRIVATE SECTOR TO CARRY OUT RESEARCH AND
DEVELOPMENT.

THESE INCENTIVES SUPPLEMENTED THE ADDITIONAL TAX ALLOWANCES FOR
EXPENDITURE IN THE FIELD OF RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT. -- MORE

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*IN THE YEARS TO COME, THE GOVERNMENT HOPES THAT RESEARCH AND
DEVELOPMENT EFFORTS IN BOTH THE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTORS WILL BE
ENHANCED,* HE SAID.

HE ALSO SAID THAT GREATER ATTENTION AND PRIORITY SHOULD BE
GIVEN TO RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT THAT WERE IN LINE WITH THE STRATEGY
FOR NATIONAL INDUSTRIALIZATION.

DATUK SERI DRMAHATHIR EXPLAINED THAT THE HIGHEST PRIORITY
SHOULD BE GIVEN TO RESEARCH IN INDUSTRIES BASED ON LOCAL RESOURCES
AND COMMODITIES SUCH AS RUBBER, TIMBER AND PALM OIL.

AT PRESENT, INDUSTRIES SUCH AS THESE USED FOREIGN TECHNOLOGY.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID SUCH RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT EFFORTS
WOULD UPGRADE LOCAL CAPABILITIES IN PROCESSING, DESIGN AND PACKAGING
OF PRODUCTS. -- MORE

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DATUKSERI DR MAHATHIR SAID, HOWEVER, THAT WHILE PRIORITY WAS
GIVEN TO INDUSTRIES BASED ON LOCAL RESOURCES, RESEARCH AND
DEVELOPMENT EFFORTS SHOULD ALSO BE STEPPED UP IN ALL AREAS,
PARTICULARLY BY THE PRIVATE SECTOR.

THIS WAS IMPORTANT BECAUSE THE RESEARCH ACTIVITIES OF FOREIGN
COMPANIES IN MALAYSIA WERE GENERALLY CARRIED OUT BY THE PARENT
COMPANIES, OUTSIDE THIS COUNTRY.

THE GOVERNMENT MAY BE UNABLE TO INFLUENCE THESE FOREIGN
COMPANIES INTO CARRYING OUT THEIR RESEARCH IN MALAYSIA BUT LOCAL
COMPANIES SHOULD BE ABLE TO INTENSIFY SUCH EFFORTS,* HE ADDED.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID THAT THOUGH SEVERAL PUBLIC AND

PRIVATE INSTITUTIONS HAD-SET UP THEIR OWN RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT DIVISIONS, THE GOVERNMENT WAS AWARE THAT THEIR SUCCESS STILL DEPENDED ON THE DEDICATION, DILIGENCE AND CREATIVITY OF THE EMPLOYEES ENGAGED IN SUCH WORK..

THE GOVERNMENT WAS HOPEFUL THAT THE RIGHT COMBINATION OF RESEARCH EQUIPMENT AND FACILITIES AND DEDICATED AND CREATIVE PERSONNEL WOULD RESULT IN THE ACHIEVEMENT OF THE DESIRE@ OBJECTIVES.

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ON MALAYSIA SHIPYARD AND ENGINEERING'S RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES, DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID EFFORTS SHOULD BE MADE FOR THE MODERNIZATION FROM TIME TO TIME OF COACHES AND WAGONS FOR THE MALAYAN RAILWAY (KTM).

AS THE GOVERNMENT HAS INTERESTS, IN BOTH ORGANIZATIONS, IT WAS HOPED THAT ARRANGEMENTS COULD BE MADE FOR MUTUAL BENEFIT, HE SAID.

ON THE RAILWAY, HE SAID IT WAS THE GOVERNMENT'S DESIRE TO IMPROVE AND MODERNIZE THE MEANS OF PUBLIC TRANSPORT INTO ONE FEATURING BETTER EFFICIENCY! SAFER TRAVEL AND MODERATE FARES.

+THE RAILWAY MODERNIZATION PROGRAMME IS BEING LOOKED INTO BY A COMMITTEE, AND WILL INVOLVE SEVERAL PHASES, INCLUDING ONE IN WHICH OLD COACHES AND WAGONS WILL BE REPLACED,+ HE SAID.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID THAT AT MALAYSIA SHIPYARD AND ENGINEERING, COACHES WOULD BE BUILT UNDER THE CLOSE SUPERVISION OF A PROFESSIONAL BODY APPOINTED BY KTM TO ENSURE PROPER ADHERENCE TO THE SAFETY ASPECTS AND QUALITY OF CONSTRUCTION. --MORE

1646MST 03 11 84

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MAHATHIR 5 JOHOR BAHARU

ON THE TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY, THE PRIME MINISTER SAID SUCCESS COULD BE ACHIEVED IN THIS FIELD ONLY IF THE PEOPLE HAD MADE THE NECESSARY PREPARATIONS TO RECEIVE THE TECHNOLOGY.

+THOSE WISHING TO OBTAIN THE KNOWLEDGE SHOULD MAKE PREPARATIONS SUCH AS READING UP ON THE NEW TECHNOLOGY,+ HE SAID.

HE ALSO SAID THAT THEY SHOULD WATCH CLOSELY WORK CARRIED OUT UNDER THE NEW TECHNOLOGY, BE INQUISITIVE, UNDERTAKE STUDIES AND RECORD ALL THAT THEY HAD LEARNT AND PRODUCE ESSAYS OR THESE IN PROFESSIONAL JOURNALS.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID THE GOVERNMENT COULD ASK AND EVEN IMPOSE CONDITIONS ON FOREIGNERS TO TRANSFER TECHNOLOGY TO MALAYSIA BUT SO LONG AS THE PEOPLE WERE UNPREPARED THE EXERCISE TO IMPART TECHNOLOGY WOULD BE FUTILE.

+THE QUESTION WE MUST ASK OURSELVES NOW IS WHY OTHERS (JAPANESE AND KOREANS) CAN RECEIVE TECHNOLOGY FROM OTHER COUNTRIES BUT NOT MALAYSIANS,+ HE SAID.

BERNAMA