

U E845 ENG EMA SIN COR.
MAHATHIR-MANAGEMENT
EMBARGO: FOR RELEASE AFTER 9 PM TODAY (NOV. 7)

PETALING JAYA, NOV. 7 (BERNAMA) - - DATUK S E R I D R MAHATHIR MOHAMAD SAID TONIGHT THE GOVERNMENT TENDED TO REGULATE BUSINESS IN THE COUNTRY BECAUSE IT WAS THE BUSINESSMEN THEMSELVES WHO WISHED TO BE PROTECTED AND BECAUSE SOME OF THEM HAD A TENDENCY TO +MISBEHAVE.+ THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THE GOVERNMENT HAD MADE A SACRIFICE AT GREAT POLITICAL COST TO HELP MALAYSIAN MANUFACTURERS AND IT WAS HIGH TIME THEY BANISHED THE +SUBSIDY MENTALITY+.

+WE ARE FOND OF SAYING THAT FARMERS AND FISHERMEN HAVE A SUBSIDY MENTALITY. ACTUALLY MALAYSIAN MANUFACTURERS ARE WORSE... THEY KEEP ON ASKING THE GOVERNMENT FOR ALL KINDS OF SUBSIDIES.+ HE ADDED AT A DINNER OF THE INSTITUTE OF MANAGEMENT CONSULTANTS HERE. HE WAS CONFERRED THE FIRST FELLOWSHIP BY THE INSTITUTE AT THE DINNER.

HE GAVE AN ULTIMATUM TO THE MANUFACTURERS TO MAKE GOOD THE SACRIFICES MADE BY THE GOVERNMENT OR THE GOVERNMENT WOULD HAVE TO CONSIDER REIMPOSING THE PUNITIVE TAX RATES ON HIGHER INCOMES THAT PREVAILED BEFORE THE BUDGET.

+IF THAT SACRIFICE IS NOT APPRECIATED AND AS A RESULT THE EXPECTED INVESTMENTS AS WELL AS COMPETITIVENESS OF MALAYSIAN GOODS DO NOT MATERIALISE, THE GOVERNMENT WILL HAVE TO CONSIDER REIMPOSING THE PUNITIVE TAX RATES ON HIGHER INCOMES THAT PREVAILED BEFORE THE NEW BUDGET. MANAGERS MUST BEAR THIS IN MIND AND MUST KEEP THEIR COSTS DOWN,+ HE WARNED.

DATUK S E R I D R MAHATHIR ALSO TOLD THE MANAGEMENT CONSULTANTS THAT IT WAS ALSO THEIR DUTY TO INTERPRET NOT ONLY GOVERNMENT POLICIES BUT ALSO THE RATIONALE BEHIND THOSE POLICIES.

HE HIT OUT AT THE FREQUENT CRITICS MADE THAT THE GOVERNMENT TENDED TO REGULATE BUSINESS TOO MUCH.

+THE TRUTH IS THAT, IT IS BUSINESS WHICH KEEPS ON DEMANDING GREATER GOVERNMENT INTERFERENCE PARTLY BECAUSE THEY WISH TO BE PROTECTED AND PARTLY BECAUSE SOME OF THEIR MEMBERS HAVE A TENDENCY TO MISBEHAVE.+

+IF YOU CAN BEHAVE OR BETTER STILL IF YOU CAN POLICE YOURSELF, GOVERNMENT WILL BE ONLY TOO WILLING TO WITHDRAW... BUT IN MALAYSIA, IT HAS BEEN PROVEN TIME AND AGAIN THAT THIS IS NOT POSSIBLE.+

THE PRIME MINISTER EXPLAINED THAT THE GOVERNMENT WAS NOT ALTRUISTIC WHEN IT HELPED BUSINESS AND IT HAD NO WISH TO SEE ONE SMALL SECTION OF THE COMMUNITY +WAX RICH.+ -MORE

2055MST 07 11 84

U FB44 ENG JMA SIN COP
MAHATHIR-MANAGEMENT 3 PETALING JAYA

THE PRIME MINISTER POINTED OUT THAT AS A DEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENT, IT WAS COMMITTED TO THE MAJORITY AND THE MAJORITY WAS RELATIVELY POOR.

HE SAID IF THE GOVERNMENT HELPED THE RICH, IT WAS BECAUSE IT WANTED TO EXTRACT FROM THE RICHES THAT THEY MADE TO ENABLE IT TO BE REDISTRIBUTED TO THE REST OF THE POPULATION.

+THE MILKING MUST BE DONE JUDICIOUSLY SO THAT WE WILL NOT KILL THEM. INDEED, WE SHOULD STIMULATE THEM TO PRODUCE MORE SO THAT WE CAN GET MORE. A BIG PORTION OF A SMALL AND SHRINKING CAKE IS NOT AS GOOD AS A FAIR SHARE OF A GROWING ONE.

+THAT IS THIS GOVERNMENT'S PHILOSOPHY. I AM PUTTING THIS CRUELY BECAUSE BRILLIANT MINDS IN THIS COUNTRY ARE FREQUENTLY INCAPABLE OF APPRECIATING SIMPLE THINGS,+ HE ADDED.

HE REGRETTED THAT THERE WERE CERTAIN QUARTERS WHO SAW +DEVIUSNESS AND INJUSTICE WHENEVER THE GOVERNMENT DOES ANYTHING AND LIKE DON QUIXOTE THEY RISE TO FIGHT THESE WINDMILLS OF THEIR OWN CREATION.

+WHAT A WASTE OF INTELLECTUAL ENERGY AT A TIME WHEN THE COUNTRY NEEDS TEACHERS TO TEACH GOOD VALUES AND GOOD WORK ETHICS.+

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR, HOWEVER, WAS HAPPY TO NOTE THAT THE MANAGEMENT CONSULTANTS DID NOT INDULGE IN MENTAL AND PUBLICITY EXERCISES.

+YOUR JOB IS TO MAKE YOURSELVES WORTHWILE TO THOSE WHO SEEK YOUR SERVICES. THE MEASURE OF YOUR SUCCESS IS THE FINAL PRODUCTIVITY OF YOUR CLIENTS.

+THE MEASURE YOUR SUCCESS IS THE FINAL PRODUCTIVITY OF YOUR CLIENTS. IT IS NOT AN ABSTRACT QUALITY BUT A VERY MEASURABLE ONE INDEED. THE COUNTRY WILL BE THAT MUCH BETTWE BECAUSE OF YOU.+

THE PRIME MINISTER REMINDED THAT EFFICIENCY AND PRODUCTIVITY THROUGH DYNAMIC AND EFFECTIVE MANAGEMENT SHOULD BE ACHIEVED IF THE GOVERNMENT'S AIM TO IMPROVE PRODUCTIVITY AND PERFORMANCE WAS TO BE REALISED.

IN FACT, HE BELIEVED THAT THE DEVELOPMENT AND QUALITY OF LIFE OF ANY SOCIETY OR NATION WAS LARGELY AS A RESULT OF THE MANAGEMENT SKILLS OF THE ADMINISTRATORS IN THE GOVERNMENT AND EXECUTIVES IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR.--BERNAMA

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