

0745

B E371 AAE  
MAHATHIR-APPRECIATION  
BM

KUALA LUMPUR, AUG 10 (BERNAMA) -- (DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD TODAY EXPRESSED REGRET THAT VARIOUS GOVERNMENT MEASURES TO EASE THE PRESSURE OF ECONOMIC RECESSION HAD NOT BEEN APPRECIATED BY THE PRIVATE SECTOR

HE DREW ATTENTION TO THE GOVERNMENT MOVE RECENTLY TO REDUCE TELEPHONE AND ELECTRICITY TARIFF RATES TO HELP THE PRIVATE SECTOR, FOR EXAMPLE THE HOTELS AND INDUSTRIES, COPE WITH THE PRESENT LACK OF STABILITY IN THE ECONOMY.

BUT WHAT HE READ IN THE NEWSPAPERS, HE SAID, WAS OF BUSINESS QUARTERS VOICING DISSATISFACTION AND SAYING THE REDUCTIONS WERE NOT GOOD ENOUGH FOR THEM TO REDUCE ROOM RATES, FOR EXAMPLE

+IF THESE GOVERNMENT EFFORTS ARE NOT APPRECIATED, IT MIGHT BE BETTER TO RETAIN TELEPHONE AND ELECTRICITY RATES AT THE PREVIOUS LEVELS,+ HE SAID WHEN LAUNCHING A LUXURY CONDOMINIUM PROJECT +THE ULTIMATE+ HERE.

AT LEAST AT THE OLD RATES THE GOVERNMENT WOULD BE ABLE TO COLLECT MORE REVENUE TO BE CHANNELLED TO NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT, HE ADDED.

--MORE

1358MST 10 08 85

#### MAHATHIR-APPRECIATION 2 KUALA LUMPUR

+THE GOVERNMENT CAN DO ONLY SO MUCH, AND SUCH EFFORTS SHOULD BE SEEN AS WORTHWHILE BY THOSE QUARTERS,+ HE SAID.

+SOMETIMES THE GOVERNMENT, TOO, NEEDS TO BE APPRECIATED FOR THE EFFORTS THAT IT HAS PUT IN. I AM HURT BY THE ATTITUDE OF PEOPLE WHO DO NOT APPRECIATE THE GOVERNMENT'S REDUCTION OF THE RATES.+

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR ALSO URGED THE PEOPLE TO FURTHER +TIGHTEN THEIR BELTS+ AS LONG AS THE ECONOMIC SITUATION DID NOT IMPROVE.

BUT HE WAS GLAD THAT THE MALAYSIAS ECONOMY WAS NOT IN AS BAD A SHAPE AS SOME OTHER COUNTRIES.

+WE SHOULD NOT TAKE THIS SITUATION FOR GRANTED HOWEVER AND THINK THAT MALAYSIA WILL NOT FACE THE KIND OF DIFFICULTIES THE OTHER COUNTRIES ARE GOING THROUGH,+ HE ADDED.

+IF WE DO NOT TAKE CARE, OUR ECONOMY WILL ALSO GO THE SAME WAY,+ HE WARNED. -- MORE

1426MST 10 08 85

#### MAHATHIR-APPRECIATION 3 KUALA LUMPUR

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR ALSO SAID IT WAS IMPORTANT FOR BOTH THE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTORS TO MANAGE THEIR FINANCES WITH PRUDENCE TO AVOID AGGRAVATING THE CURRENT ECONOMIC SITUATION.

+IT IS IMPORTANT THAT WE TIGHTEN OUR BELTS FURTHER AND REDUCE EXPENDITURE IN THE LIGHT OF THE PRESENT SITUATION. WHEN THE NATION'S ECONOMY HAS RECOVERED ITS FORMER ROBUSTNESS, THEN WE CAN RESUME THE LUXURY WAY OF LIFE THAT WE HAVE BECOME ACCUSTOMED TO.+

ON THE BUILDING OF SUCH LUXURY HOUSING PROJECTS AS CONDOMINIUMS, HE HOPED THE DEVELOPERS WOULD GAUGE THE MARKET FIRST BEFORE GOING AHEAD WITH THE PROJECTS.

IT WOULD BE LOSS FOR EVERYONE CONCERNED, INCLUDING THE GOVERNMENT, IF THERE WAS A SURPLUS OF SUCH BUILDINGS WHICH NO ONE WANTED TO OCCUPY, HE SAID.

+THE GOVERNMENT IS WORRIED THERE MAY BE A GLUT IN THE MAJOR TOWNS, PARTICULARLY IN KUALA LUMPUR, BUT IT WILL NOT STOP ANYONE WISHING TO PUT UP CONDOMINIUMS,+ HE SAID. -- MORE

1521MST 10 08 85

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R E386 AAE  
MAHATHIR-APPRECIATION 4 KUALA LUMPUR

HOWEVER, HE ADVISED THEM TO STOP THEIR PROJECTS IF THEY FIND THAT THEY WOULD NOT MAKE ANY PROFIT.

+THE ULTIMATE+ IS BEING DEVELOPED BY AN IPOH-BASED BUMIPUTERA FIRM, CHE WAN DEVELOPMENT SDN BHD. IT WILL COMPRISE 30 UNITS -- 28 STANDARD-TYPE UNITS AND TWO +SUPER PENTHOUSES.+ THE PROJECT IS SCHEDULED FOR COMPLETION BETWEEN THE END OF NEXT YEAR AND MID-1987.

COMPANY CHAIRMAN SENATOR DR ABDULLAH FADZIL CHE WAN SAID EACH STANDARD-TYPE UNIT COST \$1.35 MILLION WHILE THE PRICE FOR THE TWO +SUPER PENTHOUSES+ WAS NEGOTIABLE. EIGHT OF THE STANDARD-TYPE UNITS HAVE BEEN BOOKED SO FAR.

SENATOR DR ABDULLAH FADZIL ALSO PLEDGED TO DONATE \$30,000 FOR EVERY UNIT SOLD TO A CHARITY OF THE CHOICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER'S WIFE, DATUK SERI DATIN PADUKA DR SITI HASMAH. -- BERNAMA

1522MST 10 08 85

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