

MAHATHIR: PRATT AND WHITNEY ENGINE DEAL NORMAL

85. SUBANG, OCT 21 (BERNAMA ES) -- DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD P  
TODAY DESCRIBED THE PURCHASE OF PRATT AND WHITNEY ENGINES FOR A  
BOEING 747 AIRCRAFT BEING ORDERED BY PETRONAS AS A NORMAL BUSINESS  
TRANSACTION.

PETRONAS BOUGHT THE AIRCRAFT FOR LEASING TO THE MALAYSIAN  
AIRLINE SYSTEM (MAS).

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THAT IT WAS IN MAS' INTEREST TO USE  
AIRCRAFT AND ENGINES THAT WERE GOOD AND SUITABLE.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR WAS COMMENTING ON A REPORT FROM HONG  
KONG THAT THE ROLLS-ROYCE COMPANY HAD THREATEN TO SUE THE MALAYSIAN  
GOVERNMENT OVER THE LOSS OF ITS CONTRACT TO SUPPLY ROLLS-ROYCE  
ENGINES FOR THE BOEING 747.

WHEN ASKED WHY PETRONAS BOUGHT THE AIRCRAFT INSTEAD OF MAS,  
DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID THE GOVERNMENT DID NOT WANT MAS TO SPEND  
TOO MUCH MONEY ON ITS CAPITAL INVESTMENT.--BERNAMA ES