

D487

U E410 AAE
MAHATHIR
BM

86 (Y)
KUALA LUMPUR, JUNE 21 (BERNAMA) -- THE NATION'S ECONOMY HAS SHOWN SIGNS OF RECOVERY, INCLUDING IN THE ELECTRONIC AND TIMBER INDUSTRIES, DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD SAID TODAY.

IN ADDITION, THE PRICE OF OIL WAS BECOMING MORE STABLE AND MIGHT RECOVER WITHIN THE NEXT FEW MONTHS, THE PRIME MINISTER SAID.

SPEAKING AT AN INVESTITURE CEREMONY IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE RECENT BIRTHDAY OF THE YANG DI-PERTUAN AGONG AT ISTANA NEGARA, HE SAID HE WAS CONFIDENT THAT THE NATION'S ECONOMY WOULD CONTINUE TO RECOVER, ALBEIT GRADUALLY.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID THAT IN DRAWING UP THE FIFTH MALAYSIA PLAN, CONSIDERATION WAS GIVEN TO ALL ASPECTS OF THE NATIONAL ECONOMY AS WELL AS THE WORLD ECONOMY, ADDING THAT THE GOVERNMENT WAS OPTIMISTIC THAT A LARGE PORTION OF THE OBJECTIVES OF THE NEW ECONOMIC POLICY WOULD BE ACHIEVED.

HE ALSO SAID THAT THE CONTROL ON IMPORTS AND THE STRICT FINANCIAL CONTROL BY THE GOVERNMENT IN THE PAST YEARS WERE SHOWING ENCOURAGING RESULTS. -- MORE
1229MST 21 06 86

D506

U E418 AAE
MAHATHIR 2 KUALA LUMPUR

HE SAID THE SUCCESS OF THE MEASURES COULD BE SEEN IN THE RISE IN THE COUNTRY'S EXTERNAL RESERVES.

AT THE END OF LAST YEAR, THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF RESERVES COULD PAY FOR AN EQUIVALENT OF 4.9 MONTHS OF THE NATION'S IMPORTS COMPARED WITH ONLY 3.5 MONTHS IN 1984, HE SAID.

INITIAL SUCCESS IN FINANCIAL CONTROL HAD BEEN ACHIEVED BY IMPLEMENTING ONLY DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS WHICH WERE IMPORTANT AND THOSE THAT NEEDED TO BE SPED UP, HE ADDED.

HE SAID LOANS, WHETHER DOMESTIC OR FOREIGN, WERE SOUGHT ONLY FOR DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS WHICH YIELDED RETURNS FOR THE COUNTRY'S ECONOMY.

ON UNITY, THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THE GOVERNMENT WAS HAPPY WITH THE PRESENT LEVEL ACHIEVED, ADDING THAT IT WOULD CONTINUE WITH EFFORTS TO STRENGTHEN IT TO ENSURE A STRONG AND PROSPEROUS NATION.
-- MORE

1319MST 21 06 86

D517

U E420 AAE
MAHATHIR 3 KUALA LUMPUR

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR ALSO SAID THAT MOST OF THE PEOPLE IN THE COUNTRY VALUED SOLIDARITY, WERE RATIONAL AND ALWAYS AWARE OF THE IMPORTANCE OF UNITY AND THAT THERE WERE ONLY A HANDFUL WHO WERE PREOCCUPIED WITH ISSUES THAT COULD RAISE COMMUNAL FEELINGS.

+ON THE WHOLE, THESE MINOR TRIALS WILL ULTIMATELY MAKE THE NATION STRONGER AND MORE UNITED+, HE ADDED.

HE PLEDGED THAT THE GOVERNMENT WOULD CONTINUE TO WORK WITH DETERMINATION TO ENSURE THE PROSPERITY, SECURITY AND HAPPINESS OF THE PEOPLE AND NATION. -- BERNAMA
1339MST 21 06 86