

MAHATHIR-DINNER
BM

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EMBARGO: FOR RELEASE AFTER 10.30 PM TODAY.

KUALA LUMPUR, JUNE 28 (BERNAMA) -- DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD TONIGHT HIT OUT AT THOSE WHO ARE RELUCTANT TO ACKNOWLEDGE THAT THE PERFORMANCE OF CIVIL SERVANTS HAS IMPROVED.

THEY WERE MORE INTERESTED IN IDENTIFYING CASES OF FAILURE FOR EXPOSURE, THE PRIME MINISTER SAID AT THE INSTITUTION OF SURVEYORS MALAYSIA DINNER HERE.

HE SAID THAT THESE PEOPLE DID THIS FOR PERSONAL INTERESTS OR WITH A POLITICAL MOTIVE.

THEIR ATTITUDE DEMORALISED THE CIVIL SERVANTS AND HAMPERED THE ASPIRATION OF THE GOVERNMENT IN HAVING A CLEAN, EFFICIENT AND TRUSTWORTHY ADMINISTRATION, HE SAID.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID THAT THE GOVERNMENT WAS ALWAYS DETERMINED TO IMPROVE ITS EFFICIENCY, ADDING THAT IN FACT IT HAD ACHIEVED A LOT OF SUCCESSES. -- MORE
1857MST 28 06 86

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MAHATHIR-DINNER 2 KUALA LUMPUR (EMBARGO)

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID PROFESSIONALS LIKE SURVEYORS SHOULD APPRECIATE THE SERVICES OF THE CIVIL SERVANTS.

HE URGED THE PRIVATE SECTOR TO RESPOND POSITIVELY TO GOVERNMENT DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES BECAUSE HE SAID THE SUPPORT OF ALL SECTIONS WAS NECESSARY FOR THEM TO SUCCEED.

THE SUPPORT OF THE PRIVATE SECTOR COULD ENCOURAGE GREATER FOREIGN INVESTMENTS IN MALAYSIA, HE SAID.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THAT THE GOVERNMENT WOULD CONTINUE TO GIVE PRIORITY TO STUDIES WHICH WOULD ENABLE MORE PEOPLE TO BECOME PROFESSIONALS AND SKILLED WORKERS IN VARIOUS FIELDS.

HE SAID THAT AS AT THE END OF 1984, 26,000 PROFESSIONALS INCLUDING ARCHITECTS, ENGINEERS, DOCTORS, ACCOUNTANTS AND SURVEYORS WERE MEMBERS OF PROFESSIONAL BODIES AND HOPED THAT THE NUMBER WOULD CONTINUE TO INCREASE.

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MAHATHIR-DINNER 3 KUALA LUMPUR (EMBARGO)

HE SAID THAT WITH A BIGGER NUMBER OF PROFESSIONALS AND SKILLED WORKERS, THE NATION'S ECONOMIC RESOURCES COULD BE FULLY EXPLOITED.

ON PROFESSIONAL FEES CHARGED BY SURVEYORS, DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR PROPOSED THAT THIS BE BASED ON THE AMOUNT OF WORK OR MAN-HOURS AND NOT A PERCENTAGE OF PROJECT COSTS.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID THAT IF PROFESSIONAL FEES WERE NOT REDUCED, THE COST OF PRODUCTION WOULD INCREASE AND THE NATION MIGHT NOT BE ABLE TO COMPETE WITH THE OTHER COUNTRIES.

REDUCTION OF PROFESSIONAL FEES WOULD REDUCE COST OF PRODUCTION AND ENABLE THE COUNTRY TO BE MORE COMPETITIVE IN THE WORLD MARKET, HE SAID.

EARLIER, THE INSTITUTION'S PRESIDENT, ENCIK MOHAMAD FAIZ HAMID, URGED THE GOVERNMENT TO GIVE PRIORITY TO INSTITUTION MEMBERS TO CARRY OUT SURVEY WORK AS PART OF EFFORTS TO REDUCE UNEMPLOYMENT AMONG SURVEYORS.

HE HOPED THE STATE GOVERNMENTS WOULD DO AWAY WITH THE PRACTICE OF CHARGING FEES FOR +TITLE SEARCH+ AT LAND AND DISTRICT OFFICES.

THIS WAS ONE OF THE REASONS WHY SURVEYORS CHARGED HIGHER PROFESSIONAL FEES, HE SAID. -- BERNAMA

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