

D150

B E708 AAE
MAHATHIR-DRUG

KUALA LUMPUR, SEPT 22 (BERNAMA) -- THE PROPOSED BILL ON THE FORFEITURE OF PROPERTY DERIVED FROM DRUG TRAFFICKING WILL BE TABLED IN PARLIAMENT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, PRIME MINISTER DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD SAID TODAY.

WHEN ASKED WHETHER THE BILL WOULD BE TABLED AT THE NEXT SESSION OF PARLIAMENT, HE SAID THE GOVERNMENT WAS TRYING TO DO SO.

HE ALSO SAID THAT UNDER THE PROPOSED BILL, THE PROPERTY CONFISCATED WOULD BE AUCTIONED, JUST LIKE ALL OTHER CONFISCATED PROPERTY.

HE WAS SPEAKING TO REPORTERS AFTER OPENING THE FIVE-DAY UNITED NATIONS EXPERT GROUP MEETING ON RECOMMENDED METHODS OF TESTING CANNABIS AND AMPHETAMINE-METHAMPHETAMINE ANALYSIS HERE.

HE WAS CONFIDENT THE BILL, MALAYSIA'S FIFTH LEGISLATION PERTAINING TO DRUGS, WOULD BE PASSED. -- MORE
1302MST 22 09 86

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B E712 AAE
MAHATHIR-DRUG 2 KUALA LUMPUR

IN HIS SPEECH TO THE UN DRUG EXPERTS EARLIER, DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID THE DRAFT LEGISLATION ON CONFISCATION OF PROFITS AND PROCEEDS DERIVED FROM DRUG TRAFFICKING WAS NOW UNDER +ACTIVE CONSIDERATION+ BY THE MALAYSIAN GOVERNMENT.

+THE PROPOSED LEGISLATION, WHEN PASSED BY PARLIAMENT, WILL LEAVE THE TRAFFICKERS WITH NOTHING,+ HE SAID.

HE ALSO TOLD THE EXPERTS THAT THE COUNTRY'S RECENT LEGISLATION GAVE MORE CLOUT TO THE AUTHORITIES, INCLUDING THE POWER TO DETAIN WITHOUT TRIAL, ON COGENT EVIDENCE, SUSPECTED MASTERMINDS AND KINGPINS OF DRUG SYNDICATES.

FORENSIC EXPERTS FROM AUSTRIA, AUSTRALIA, ARGENTINA, BELGIUM, THE UNITED STATES, CANADA, FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY, NETHERLANDS, SWITZERLAND, SUDAN, TURKEY, JAPAN, SINGAPORE, NORWAY, UNITED KINGDOM AND MALAYSIA ARE ATTENDING THE MEETING. -- BERNAMA
1312MST 22 09 86