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MAHATHIR-PAY  
BM

KUALA TERENGGANU, APRIL 3 (BERNAMA) -- DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD SAID TONIGHT IT WAS NOT IMPOSSIBLE FOR PROBLEMS BESETTING THE COUNTRY TO WORSEN TO SUCH A STAGE THAT THE GOVERNMENT WAS UNABLE TO PAY ITS WORKERS.

+THIS CAN HAPPEN IF WE CANNOT ADMINISTER THE COUNTRY PROPERLY,+ THE PRIME MINISTER SAID AT A DINNER AT THE MENTERI BESAR'S RESIDENCE HERE.

HE SAID THAT IN SOME COUNTRIES GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES HAD TO +MOONLIGHT+ BECAUSE THEIR PAY WAS INSUFFICIENT WHILE OTHERS HAD TO ACCEPT HALF-PAY.

TO AVOID THIS, HE SAID, IT WAS VITAL FOR GOVERNMENT WORKERS, THE PRIVATE SECTOR AND THE GOVERNMENT ITSELF TO WORK EVEN MORE CLOSELY AS CALLED FOR UNDER THE +MALAYSIA INCORPORATED+ CONCEPT.

HE SAID EVERYONE MUST REALISE THAT THE NATION'S REVENUE WAS DECLINING DUE TO THE LACK OF DEMAND FOR AND THE PRICE EROSION OF SUCH COMMODITIES AS TIN, RUBBER AND PALM OIL. -- MORE  
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D245

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MAHATHIR-PAY 2 KUALA TERENGGANU

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID ALL THE PARTIES CONCERNED HAD AN IMPORTANT PART TO PLAY IN WORKING AS A TEAM UNDER THE +MALAYSIA INCORPORATED+ CONCEPT.

+GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES MUST BE DEDICATED TO THEIR JOBS, THE GOVERNMENT INCLUDING THE POLITICIANS MUST REFRAIN FROM BEING ARROGANT, AND THE PRIVATE SECTOR MUST NOT THINK WEALTH WILL BRING PRIVILEGES. EVERYONE MUST THINK OF HIMSELF AS BEING IN THE SAME TEAM,+ HE SAID.

HE ALSO SPOKE OF ATTEMPTS BY CERTAIN GROUPS TO ERODE THE PEOPLE'S CONFIDENCE IN THE GOVERNMENT, SAYING THAT IF SUCH EFFORTS SUCCEEDED, GOVERNMENT DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES WOULD FAIL AND GOVERNMENT STAFF AND THOSE RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTING THE PROJECTS WOULD BECOME FRUSTRATED.

+PEOPLE WHO ARE FRUSTRATED WILL NOT BE ABLE TO RENDER EFFECTIVE SERVICE. IF THIS HAPPENS, THE PEOPLE WILL HAVE TO SUFFER THE CONSEQUENCES. AND IF WE ARE NOT CAREFUL, CHAOS WILL RESULT AND WE WILL BE REVILED AS A PEOPLE WHO SUCCEEDED IN GAINING INDEPENDENCE BUT CANNOT GOVERN,+ HE SAID.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID THE ATTITUDE OF EVERYONE CONCERNED TOWARD THE NATION WOULD DETERMINE THE FATE OF THE COUNTRY.

+WE HAVE NO ONE BUT OURSELVES. EVEN IF THERE IS SOME ONE WILLING TO OFFER ASSISTANCE, THIS WILL NOT COME FREE. WE'LL HAVE TO PAY, MAYBE NOT IN MONETARY TERMS, BUT IN A FORM THAT COULD JEOPARDISE OUR FREEDOM, OUR INTEGRITY AND OUR SELF-RESPECT.+ -- BERNAMA  
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