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MAHATHIR-SEMINAR R R R

FROM WAN A.HULAIMI

LONDON, JULY 22 (BERNAMA) -- MALAYSIA IS NOW +ACTIVELY CONSIDERING+ THE POSSIBILITY OF LOWERING CORPORATION TAX BECAUSE OF COMPETITION FROM ITS NEIGHBOURS, DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD SAID TODAY.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THAT, HOWEVER, THIS HAD TO BE THOUGHT OUT PROPERLY BECAUSE THE TAX PROVIDED SUBSTANTIAL INCOME TO THE GOVERNMENT.

HE SAID THIS WHEN REPLYING TO A QUESTIONER AT THE MALAYSIAN INVESTMENT SEMINAR HERE.

AT PRESENT, MALAYSIA'S CORPORATE TAX IS THE HIGHEST IN ASEAN.

IN REPLY TO ANOTHER QUESTIONER WHO SAID THAT IN THE 10 YEARS HE HAD BEEN DOING BUSINESS IN MALAYSIA HE HAD NOT COME ACROSS CORRUPTION, DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID HE WAS +GOING TO BE REALISTIC+, ADDING THAT THERE WAS CORRUPTION IN MALAYSIA. -- MORE  
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+MAYBE YOU HAVE BEEN LUCKY,+ HE TOLD THE QUESTIONER.

HOWEVER, DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID THAT IN MALAYSIA CORRUPTION HAD NOT BEEN +INSTITUTIONALISED+ AS IN SOME COUNTRIES.

+AND WE HAVE AN AGENCY WHICH DEALS HARSHLY WITH OFFENDERS,+ HE SAID.

HE SAID HE HIMSELF HAD BEEN ACCUSED OF BEING CORRUPT BUT HIS ACCUSERS, WHEN ASKED TO PROVIDE PROOF, COULD NOT DO SO.

+HOW CAN I PROVE THAT I DO NOT HAVE A NUMBERED SWISS ACCOUNT?+ HE ASKED. -- MORE  
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MAHATHIR-SEMINAR 3 LONDON R R R

HE RAISED LAUGHTER WHEN HE SAID THAT THERE MIGHT BE PEOPLE CLAIMING TO BE COLLECTING MONEY ON HIS BEHALF AND THAT +THEY GET THE MONEY AND I GET THE BAD NAME.+

HE URGED EUROPEAN INVESTORS TO REPORT TO THE AUTHORITIES IF ANY ONE APPROACHED THEM FOR PAYMENTS. -- BERNAMA  
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