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MAHATHIR-DRUG

KUALA LUMPUR, JUNE 27 (BERNAMA) -- PRIME MINISTER DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD HAS CALLED ON THE UNITED NATIONS TO CONTINUE GIVING PRIORITY TO THE FIGHT AGAINST DRUG ABUSE AND ILLICIT TRAFFICKING, URGING THAT MORE RESOURCES BE COMMITTED TO THE CAUSE.

IN HIS MESSAGE TO UN SECRETARY-GENERAL ENCIK JAVIER PEREZ DE CUELLAR ON THE OCCASION OF THE INTERNATIONAL DAY AGAINST DRUG ABUSE AND ILLICIT TRAFFICKING, DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID THE MOMENTUM OF THE EFFORTS PUT IN BY THE INTERNATIONAL BODY, PARTICULARLY TO CONVENE THE FIRST INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON DRUG ABUSE AND ILLICIT TRAFFICKING (ICDAIT) LAST YEAR, HAS TO BE MAINTAINED.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THE CONFERENCE HAD GIVEN THE MUCH NEEDED IMPETUS TO THE STRUGGLE OF FREEING THE WORLD OF DRUG ABUSE.

THE MESSAGE WAS RELEASED BY THE FOREIGN AFFAIRS MINISTRY THIS EVENING.

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MAHATHIR-DRUG 2 KUALA LUMPUR

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR CONGRATULATED ENCIK DE CUELLAR FOR HIS EFFORTS, STATING THAT ICDAIT COULD NOT HAVE BEEN POSSIBLE WITHOUT ENCIK DE CUELLAR'S PERSONAL COMMITMENT AND DEDICATION TO THE FIGHT AGAINST THE DRUG PROBLEM.

THE PRIME MINISTER ADDED THAT ENCIK DE CUELLAR'S GUIDANCE HAD ENABLED THE WORLD TO SEE THE FULL POTENTIAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM IN ADDRESSING THE PROBLEM AND REINFORCING NATIONAL AND REGIONAL EFFORTS IN THE WAR AGAINST DRUGS.

HE ALSO SAID THAT ENCIK DE CUELLAR'S CATALYSTIC ROLE IN CONVENING THE CONFERENCE AND HIS CONTINUED DEDICATION IN MOBILIZING EFFORTS TOWARDS OVERCOMING DRUG PROBLEM HAD NOT GONE UNNOTICED.

NEVERTHELESS, DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR REMINDED THAT +THE BATTLE (AGAINST DRUG ABUSE) HAS NOT BEEN WON AND MUCH REMAINS TO BE DONE+.

-- BERNAMA

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