

0051

B E060 AAE
MAHATHIR-CHOGM

88 P
KUAH (LANGKAWI), JUNE 28 (BERNAMA) -- COMMONWEALTH HEADS OF GOVERNMENT, WHO WILL BE MEETING IN KUALA LUMPUR LATE NEXT YEAR, WILL HOLD THEIR OVERNIGHT +RETREAT+ IN PULAU LANGKAWI, THE PRIME MINISTER SAID HERE TODAY.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD SAID HE HAD INSTRUCTED THAT MORE HOTEL ROOMS BE BUILT ON THE ISLAND, INFRASTRUCTURE FACILITIES BE IMPROVED AND THE BEAUTIFICATION PROGRAMME IN THE ISLAND DISTRICT BE STEPPED UP IN TIME FOR THE MEETING.

THE RETREAT IS A TRADITIONAL EVENT DURING THE COMMONWEALTH HEADS OF GOVERNMENT MEETING (CHOGM) WHERE LEADERS, ACCOMPANIED ONLY BY THEIR SPOUSES, UNWIND AFTER THEIR HECTIC FORMAL SESSIONS AT THE CONFERENCE VENUE.

SPEAKING TO REPORTERS, AFTER SEEING OFF HIS SINGAPORE COUNTERPART LEE KUAN YEM AT THE AIRPORT HERE, DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR ALSO SAID THAT SINGAPORE WAS KEEN TO INCREASE INVESTMENT IN LANGKAWI.

AT PRESENT, SINGAPORE HAS MINORITY INTEREST IN THREE PROJECTS HERE -- THE KEDAH CEMENT, LANGKAWI MARBLE AND THE PELANGI BEACH RESORT NOW UNDER CONSTRUCTION. -- MORE
1749MST 28 06 88

0063

B E074 AAE
MAHATHIR-CHOGM 2 KUAH

+IT IS BECAUSE OF THIS THAT ENCIK LEE EXPRESSED INTEREST TO COME TO LANGKAWI WITH SEVERAL SINGAPORE BUSINESSMEN,+ HE SAID.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID HIS DISCUSSIONS WITH ENCIK LEE OVER THE LAST TWO DAYS IN KUALA LUMPUR AND HERE WERE CORDIAL.

HIS TRIP HERE WAS TO RECIPROCATATE THE ONE MADE BY DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR TO SINGAPORE LAST YEAR.

ENCIK LEE'S VISIT HERE, SIMILAR TO HIS RECENT MEETING WITH PRESIDENT SUHARTO IN YOGYAKARTA, INDONESIA, WAS AIMED AT ENHANCING FRIENDLY PERSONAL CONTACTS AMONG ASEAN LEADERS.

ASKED ON THE FOUR-POINT MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING HE SIGNED WITH ENCIK LEE THIS MORNING, DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID: +OF COURSE WE CAN'T HAVE BOTH SIDES HAPPY IN ANY NEGOTIATIONS,+

THE PACT COVERS THE SALE OF NATURAL GAS AND ADDITIONAL WATER SUPPLY TO SINGAPORE AND THE BUILDING OF A BRIDGE AND A FERRY SERVICE LINKING THE TWO COUNTRIES.

+WE MUST BE EQUALLY UNHAPPY IN ANY NEGOTIATIONS. YOU CANNOT HAVE BOTH SIDES EQUALLY HAPPY BECAUSE BOTH CANNOT GET EVERYTHING THEY ASKED FOR,+ HE SAID WHEN ASKED WHY THE AGREEMENT TOOK SOME SEVEN YEARS TO REACH. -- MORE
1812MST 28 06 88

0064

B E075 AAE
MAHATHIR-CHOGM 3 KUAH

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID HE WAS SATISFIED WITH THE OUTCOME OF HIS TALKS WITH THE SINGAPORE LEADER, ADDING THAT MALAYSIA WAS BOUND BY A PREVIOUS COMMITMENT MADE TO SINGAPORE AND IT WOULD TRY TO EXTRACT AS MUCH POSSIBLE FROM THE AGREEMENT.

MALAYSIA WOULD NOT WANT TO BE ON THE LOSING END. BUT IT HAD TO FULFIL AN EARLIER PROMISE TO SINGAPORE, HE SAID.

EARLIER, ENCIK LEE'S PRESS SECRETARY, ENCIK JAMES FU, TOLD REPORTERS THAT DETAILS REGARDING THE RATES OF THE SALE OF WATER TO SINGAPORE COULD NOT BE MADE PUBLIC YET BECAUSE THE MATTER HAD YET TO BE ENDORSED BY THE JOHOR STATE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL. -- BERNAMA
1813MST 28 06 88