

0402

B E224 AAE
MAHATHIR-INDUSTRY
BM

KUALA LUMPUR, AUG 3 (BERNAMA) -- THE PRIME MINISTER SAID TODAY THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE SMALL INDUSTRIES SECTOR IN THE COUNTRY HAS NOT BEEN UP TO EXPECTATIONS, OWING TO THE ENTREPRENEURS STILL HAVING A DEPENDENT ATTITUDE.

THE NEGATIVE ATTITUDE AMONG OPERATORS WAS AMONG THE LEADING REASONS FOR THE GROWTH BEING INEFFICIENT, HE ADDED.

+AN ATTITUDE OF DEPENDING ON A LOT OF GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE, INCLUDING IN TAX EXEMPTION AND PROVISION OF EXCESSIVE INFRASTRUCTURE, IS STILL PREVAILING AMONG THEM,+ HE SAID WHEN OPENING THE MENARA BANK PEMBANGUNAN HERE.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD SAID IN THIS CONNECTION, MANY SMALL INDUSTRY OPERATORS HAD FAILED TO PRACTISE GOOD MANAGEMENT, LEADING TO THEM BEING UNABLE TO OPERATE THEIR BUSINESS EFFECTIVELY AND FREQUENTLY EXPERIENCING LOSSES.

+THE THINKING THAT MANAGEMENT KNOWHOW NEED NOT BE LEARNT IS WRONG BECAUSE IN THESE MODERN TIMES, MANAGERS MUST HAVE TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE,+ HE SAID. -- MORE
2109MST 03 08 88

0404

B E225 AAE
MAHATHIR-INDUSTRY 2 KUALA LUMPUR

HE SAID THE SLUGGISH GROWTH OF THE SMALL ENTERPRISES SECTOR SHOULD BE STUDIED BY PUBLIC AGENCIES RESPONSIBLE FOR OVERSEEING THIS TYPE OF INDUSTRIES.

THE GOVERNMENT HOPED THE AGENCIES INCLUDING BANK PEMBANGUNAN MADE EFFORTS TO COOPERATE MORE CLOSELY WITH RESEARCH AGENCIES SUCH AS THE STANDARDS AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE OF MALAYSIA (SIRIM), MALAYSIAN AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE (MARDI), RUBBER RESEARCH INSTITUTE (RRI) AND PALM OIL RESEARCH INSTITUTE OF MALAYSIA (PORIM) TO HELP IMPROVE STANDARDS AND THE QUALITY OF PRODUCTS OF SMALL INDUSTRIES.

THE MOVE WAS ESSENTIAL TO UPGRADE MALAYSIA'S COMPETITIVENESS IN THE INTERNATIONAL MARKET.

HE SAID SMALL INDUSTRIES SHOULD HAVE BEEN MORE EASILY UNDERTAKEN BY BUMIPUTERAS AND SERVE AS A MEANINGFUL BEGINNING TOWARDS EMBARKING ON BIGGER INDUSTRIES.

+IN THIS LIGHT, THE GOVERNMENT WILL CONTINUE TO ENCOURAGE EFFORTS THAT CAN INCREASE THE NUMBER OF BUMIPUTERA-OWNED SMALL INDUSTRIES IN THE COUNTRY,+ HE SAID. -- MORE
2113MST 03 08 88

0412

B E230 AAE
MAHATHIR-INDUSTRY 3 KUALA LUMPUR

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR HOPES BANK PEMBANGUNAN WILL CONTINUE TO ENHANCE ITS ROLE AS A KEY CREDIT AGENCY FOR THE SECTOR.

HE SAID THE GOVERNMENT WAS HAPPY TO SEE MORE BUMIPUTERAS INVOLVED IN SMALL AND MEDIUM SCALE BUSINESSES OPERATING WELL AND GROWING.

IT HOPED THEIR SUCCESS WOULD SERVE AS A MODEL FOR OTHER BUMIPUTERA ENTREPRENEURS.

HE SAID FOR A BUSINESS TO BE SUCCESSFUL, IT NEED NOT NECESSARILY HAVE A TURNOVER OF MILLIONS OF RINGGIT BECAUSE ALTHOUGH A LARGE BUSINESS BROUGHT LARGE PROFITS, THE LOSS, IF EXPERIENCED, WOULD ALSO BE LARGE.

+IT IS BETTER TO START SMALL BUT HAVE EFFICIENT MANAGEMENT SO AS TO MAKE PROFITS AND EXPAND LATER ACCORDING TO INDIVIDUAL CAPABILITIES, THAN TO BE SADDLED WITH HUGE DEBTS JUST TO HAVE A LARGER BUSINESS,+ HE ADDED. -- MORE
2130MST 03 08 88

0413

B E231 AAE
MAHATHIR-INDUSTRY 4 KUALA LUMPUR

THE COST OF CONSTRUCTING THE TWIN TOWER BLOCK OF BANK PEMBANGUNAN AMOUNTED TO \$60 MILLION NOT INCLUDING THE PRICE OF THE 0.8HA SITE.

THE BANK HEADQUARTERS IS LOCATED IN THE 29-STOREY MAIN TOWER BLOCK WHILE THE SECOND TOWER HAVING 20 STOREYS HAS BEEN SOLD TO BANK KEMAJUAN PERUSAHAAN MALAYSIA FOR \$25 MILLION.

THE PRIME MINISTER HOPES THE BUILDING WILL BE MAINTAINED PROPERLY SO THAT APART FROM ATTRACTING MORE TENANTS, IT WILL BE A SOURCE OF PRIDE TO ALL.

HE SAID KUALA LUMPUR HAD MANY BEAUTIFUL AND IMPRESSIVE SKYSCRAPERS BUT UNFORTUNATELY, AFTER SOME TIME, THEY FALL INTO DISREPAIR.

+THIS IS REGRETTABLE CONSIDERING THAT HUGE AMOUNTS HAVE BEEN SPENT ON THEIR CONSTRUCTION. THERE IS NOTHING MORE UNATTRACTIVE THAN A BUILDING THAT HAS AGED BEFORE ITS TIME,+ HE ADDED. -- BERNAMA
2132MST 03 08 88