

0973

B E777 AAE
BUDGET-COMMENT
BH

KUALA LUMPUR, OCT 21 (BERNAMA) -- PRIME MINISTER DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD SAID THE 1989 BUDGET TABLED TODAY DOES NOT HAVE ANY POLITICAL AIM, NEITHER IS IT AN ELECTION BUDGET.

HE SAID IF THERE WERE QUARTERS SUSPECTING IT TO BE AN ELECTION BUDGET, THEY COULD START THEIR PREPARATIONS ACCORDINGLY.

+I COULD NOT CARE LESS WHAT THEY THINK,+ HE TOLD REPORTERS WHEN SURROUNDED AT THE FOYER OF PARLIAMENT HOUSE HERE AS SOON AS HE EMERGED FROM THE DOOR GIVING ACCESS TO THE DEMAN RAKYAT.

HE SAID THE BUDGET WAS A GOOD ONE FOR ALL THE PEOPLE.

+EVERY GOVERNMENT HAS ITS MOTIVE AND OUR MOTIVE IS TO GIVE SOMETHING GOOD TO THE PEOPLE,+ HE ADDED. -- MORE
1955HST 21 10 88

0983

B E788 AAE
BUDGET-COMMENT 2 KUALA LUMPUR

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID: +DO NOT SUSPECT ALL KINDS OF THINGS, WE ARE NOT OUBIOUS.+

ASKED WHETHER THERE IS A POSSIBILITY OF ELECTIONS SOON, HE SAID +I DO NOT UNDERSTAND WHY YOU HAVE THIS THING ON YOUR MIND.+

DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER SHAFAR BABA SAID THE BUDGET HAD SOMETHING FOR EVERYBODY INCLUDING GOVERNMENT OFFICERS, WORKERS AND PETTY TRADERS.

IT ALSO INDICATED THE COUNTRY'S FINANCIAL POSITION WAS BECOMING STRONGER AND THE SITUATION PEACEFUL.

+IN VIEW OF THIS, MALAYSIA'S FUTURE LOOKS GOOD AND WE HOPE THIS OUTLOOK WILL CONTINUE TO PREVAIL,+ HE ADDED. -- MORE
2013HST 21 10 88

0984

B E789 AAE
BUDGET-COMMENT 3 KUALA LUMPUR

ENCIK SHAFAR SAID THE BUDGET SHOWED THE GOVERNMENT +IS RESPONSIVE TO THE NEEDS OF THE PEOPLE AND AWARE OF THE DIRECTION IN WHICH IT IS HEADING AS WELL AS THE AREAS REQUIRING ATTENTION.+

HE SAID EARNINGS FROM MANUFACTURED GOODS HAD NOW OUTSTRIPPED REVENUE FROM NATURAL RESOURCES.

+FIVE OR SIX YEARS AGO, PEOPLE DID NOT THINK WE WOULD BE ABLE TO BREAK INTO THE WORLD MARKET AND SELL THAT MUCH PRODUCTS.+

UMNO VICE-PRESIDENT ANWAR IBRAHIM DESCRIBED THE BUDGET AS +AMONG THE BEST TO DATE.+

THE EDUCATION MINISTER SAID IT MET HIS MINISTRY'S REQUIREMENTS IN THE PROVISION OF EDUCATION FACILITIES. -- MORE
2015HST 21 10 88

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B E812 AAE
BUDGET-COMMENT 4 KUALA LUMPUR

HE SAID THE SALARY ADJUSTMENTS EFFECTIVE FROM NEXT YEAR ALSO INVOLVED MORE THAN 180,000 TEACHERS.

MIC PRESIDENT DATUK S. SAMY VELLU SAID THE BUDGET SHOWED THE GOVERNMENT GAVE ATTENTION TO ALL THE PEOPLE AND EFFORTS TO ENCOURAGE INVESTMENTS.

HE HOPED IT WOULD SPUR CIVIL SERVANTS TO IMPROVE WORK PERFORMANCE, AND SAID THE BUDGET WAS A MANIFESTATION OF THE COOPERATION AND UNITY AMONG THE PEOPLE.

DEPUTY PARTI PESAKA BUNIPUTERA BERSATU SARAWAK (PPB) PRESIDENT DATUK ABANG ABU BAKAR MUSTAPHA SAID THE BUDGET WAS VERY GOOD TO ALL THE PEOPLE, INCLUDING GOVERNMENT SERVANTS, FARMERS AND BUSINESSMEN.

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2049HST 21 10 88

B E813 AAE
BUDGET-COMMENT 5 KUALA LUMPUR

HE FELT SEVERAL TAX EXEMPTIONS GIVEN IN THE BUDGET WOULD HELP ATTRACT MORE FOREIGN INVESTMENTS.

PARTI BANSA DAYAK SARAWAK (PBDS) PRESIDENT DATUK LEO HOGGIE SAID THE BUDGET CONTAINED REASONABLE GOVERNMENT STRATEGIES TO STIMULATE MALAYSIA'S ECONOMIC GROWTH.

THE GOVERNMENT HAD BEEN ABLE TO MEET SALARY ADJUSTMENT CLAIMS OF CIVIL SERVANTS DUE TO THE IMPROVING NATIONAL ECONOMY.

WHAT WAS IMPORTANT, HE SAID, WAS THAT ALL SECTIONS OF SOCIETY INCLUDING IN THE PUBLIC SECTOR STEP UP THEIR PRODUCTIVITY.

USNO VICE-PRESIDENT OSU HAJI SUKAH WHO IS FEDERAL DEPUTY WORKS MINISTER ALSO DESCRIBED THE BUDGET AS POSITIVE AND BENEFICIAL ALL ROUND.

HE PRAISED THE GOVERNMENT FOR IT AND IS CONFIDENT THE COUNTRY WILL SEE BETTER ECONOMIC GROWTH.

ENCIK OSU SAID THE CIVIL SERVANTS' SALARY ADJUSTMENTS WOULD ENHANCE MORALE IN THE CIVIL SERVICE AND SEE THEM WORKING HARDER TO CONTRIBUTE TO IMPROVING THE ECONOMIC GROWTH RATE. -- MORE

2051HST 21 10 88

B E827 AAE
BUDGET-COMMENT 6 KUALA LUMPUR

UMNO YOUTH HEAD DATUK SERI MAJIB TUN RAZAK SAID THE 1987 BUDGET WAS POSITIVE AND COVERED ALL SECTORS AND ALL GROUPS IN SOCIETY. HE SAID NO ONE WAS LEFT OUT FROM THE BENEFITS.

ON HIGHLIGHTS OF THE BUDGET IN GENERAL, HE SAID IN THE CONTEXT OF AN IMPROVING ECONOMY, THE PRIVATE SECTOR PLAYED AN INCREASINGLY IMPORTANT ROLE, RECOGNISED BY GRANTING IT A FIVE PERCENT REDUCTION IN CORPORATE TAX FROM 40 PERCENT PREVIOUSLY TO 35 PERCENT.

UMNO YOUTH, HE SAID, WAS MORE CONCERNED WITH THE NEW ECONOMIC POLICY (NEP) ASPECT, AND THE BUDGET THIS TIME WAS BIGGER WITH EMPHASIS GIVEN TO THE RURAL SECTOR THROUGH INCREASED ALLOCATIONS FOR WATER AND ELECTRICITY SUPPLY, HEALTH AND EDUCATION FACILITIES AS WELL AS AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT.

THE MOVEMENT FELT THE GOVERNMENT'S EFFORTS COULD CREATE A CLIMATE MORE CONDUCTIVE FOR INVESTMENTS AND ECONOMIC GROWTH. -- MORE
2123MST 21 10 88

B E828 AAE
BUDGET-COMMENT 7 KUALA LUMPUR

SERAKAN PRESIDENT DATUK DR LIM KENG YAIK SAID IT WAS A +SOFT BUDGET THAT DOES NOT BURDEN THE PEOPLE. +

HE SAID ALTHOUGH THE NATIONAL ECONOMY HAD IMPROVED COMPARED WITH 1985 AND 1986, IT HAD STILL TO REACH THE DESIRED LEVEL.

DATUK DR LIM WHO IS PRIMARY INDUSTRIES MINISTER SAID THE PEOPLE SHOULD BE CAREFUL IN THEIR SPENDING AND NOT WASTE MONEY.

HE SAID WITH THE UNITY AND COOPERATION PREVAILING AMONG THE RACES, MALAYSIA SHOULD BE ABLE TO ACHIEVE A BETTER ECONOMY WHICH COULD NOW AFFORD TO OFFER MANY JOB OPPORTUNITIES TO THE PUBLIC. -- MORE
2127MST 21 10 88

B E829 AAE
BUDGET-COMMENT 8 KUALA LUMPUR

MANITA UMNO CHIEF DATIN PADUKA RAFIDAH AZIZ SAID THE BUDGET HAD AN INCENTIVE FOR GREATER GROWTH OF THE INDUSTRIAL SECTOR, ESPECIALLY MANUFACTURING COMPANIES.

DATIN PADUKA RAFIDAH WHO IS TRADE AND INDUSTRY MINISTER SAID IT WOULD ALSO ENCOURAGE LOCAL AND FOREIGN INVESTMENTS, PARTICULARLY WITH THE GRADUAL ABOLITION OF THE DEVELOPMENT TAX STARTING WITH ONE PERCENT REDUCTION FROM THE YEAR OF ASSESSMENT 1990.

THE REDUCTION IN CORPORATE TAX ALSO CLEARLY SHOWED THE GOVERNMENT WAS SENSITIVE TO THE PRIVATE SECTOR'S VIEW THAT MALAYSIA'S CORPORATE TAX WAS HIGH COMPARED WITH ITS NEIGHBOURS.

IN IPOH, PERAK MENTERI BESAR DATUK SERI RAHLI NGAH TALIB SAID THE BUDGET REFLECTED THE GOVERNMENT'S STRESS ON NATIONAL ECONOMIC GROWTH.

ONE OF THE WAYS WAS BOOSTING CASH FLOW IN THE ECONOMY THROUGH TAX CONCESSIONS.

DATUK SERI RAHLI SAID THE BUDGET AS A WHOLE GAVE ATTENTION TO MEETING THE NEEDS OF THE PEOPLE AND NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT. -- BERNAMA
2129MST 21 10 88