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CHOGH-ROLE

KUALA LUMPUR, OCT 16 (BERNAMA) -- THE COMMONWEALTH HAS CHANGED FOR THE BETTER -- IT IS NOW DOING MORE TO HELP ITS DEVELOPING AND POORER MEMBER COUNTRIES' PRIME MINISTER DATUK **SERI** DR HAHATHIR HOHAHAD SAID TODAY. IN VIEW OF **THIS**, MALAYSIA! ONCE CRITICAL OF THE **GROUPING**, REVIEWED ITS POSITION AND DECIDED TO PLAY A MORE ACTIVE ROLE IN ITS AFFAIRS? HE SAID.

BUT WHAT MALAYSIA WANTED TO SEE WAS FOR THE DEVELOPING AND POORER MEMBER COUNTRIES TO GET PRACTICAL BENEFITS BY BEING IN THE COMMONWEALTH, HE TOLD A PRESS CONFERENCE HERE TWO DAYS BEFORE THE OPENING OF THE COMMONWEALTH HEADS OF GOVERNMENT MEETING (CHOGM).

DATUK **SERI** DR **MAHATHIR**, WHO IS CHAIRMAN OF THE **SUMMIT**, SAID THAT AT THE TIME THE COMMONWEALTH WAS **NOT** DOING ENOUGH FOR ITS POORER MEMBERS. ONE AREA WHERE HELP WAS NEEDED WAS IN MANAGING THE TECHNOLOGICAL CHANGES IN THE DEVELOPING MEMBER COUNTRIES SO THAT THEY WOULD NOT LOS E OUT AGAINST THE MORE DEVELOPED COUNTRIES. -- MORE
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THESE COUNTRIES REQUIRED MORE PRACTICAL HELP SUCH AS IN TRAINING OF **MANPOWER** TO COPE WITH TECHNOLOGICAL **DEVELOPMENTS**, + HE SAID. **+HOWEVER**, THERE ARE MANY POSITIVE ASPECTS OF THE COMMONWEALTH. MALAYSIA WANTS TO PLAY A MORE ACTIVE ROLE IN IT AND THE HOSTING OF CHOGH HERE IS THE DIRECT RESULT OF OUR NEW THINKING OF THE **COMMONWEALTH**, + HE ADDED IN REPLY TO A QUESTION. -- BERNAHA
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