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MAHATHIR-UTUSAN R R R

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KUALA LUMPUR, JUNE 2 (BERNAMA) -- DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD TODAY URGED THE PEOPLE TO WORK WITH DEDICATION TO RESTORE MALAYSIA'S IMAGE OF ABOUT 30 YEARS AGO AS THE SECOND MOST DEVELOPED COUNTRY IN ASIA.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID WHEN ACHIEVING INDEPENDENCE THIS COUNTRY WAS ONLY SECOND TO JAPAN FROM THE ASPECT OF PROSPERITY EVEN THOUGH THE COUNTRY'S PER CAPITA INCOME WAS ABOUT US\$200 (ABOUT \$500) A YEAR.

+BUT NOW COUNTRIES SUCH AS SOUTH KOREA AND SINGAPORE AS WELL AS HONG KONG AND TAIWAN AND EVEN THAILAND ARE NOT ONLY ABLE TO COMPETE WITH MALAYSIA BUT HAD GONE AHEAD OF THIS COUNTRY;+ HE SAID WHEN VISITING THE UTUSAN MELAYU (MALAYSIA) BERHAD OFFICE HERE ON THE OCCASION OF THE NEWSPAPER'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY.

URGING THE PEOPLE TO FIND OUT WHAT HAD CAUSED THE COUNTRY TO BE LEFT BEHIND VIS-A-VIS THE OTHER COUNTRIES; HE SAID THOSE COUNTRIES HAD BECOME MORE DEVELOPED BECAUSE OF THEIR PEOPLE'S DEDICATION IN WHATEVER THEY DO.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID THE SPIRIT OF DEDICATION SHOULD BE EMULATED AS IT REPRESENTED ONE OF THE LESSONS STRESSED IN THE GOVERNMENT'S LOOK EAST POLICY. -- MORE  
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THE PRIME MINISTER SAID SUCH DEDICATION WAS NO LONGER FOUND IN WESTERN SOCIETY THUS RENDERING IT INCAPABLE OF COMPETING FROM THE ASPECT OF TRADE WITH OTHER COUNTRIES WHERE THE PEOPLE WERE DEDICATED.

WESTERN COUNTRIES WERE LOOKING FOR WAYS AND MEANS TO OBSTRUCT OTHER COUNTRIES' TRADE AND EVEN MALAYSIA HAD BEEN RAPPED FOR NOT BUYING US\$100 MILLION (ABOUT \$250 MILLION) WORTH OF APPLES.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID CERTAIN COUNTRIES HAD BECOME DEVELOPED BECAUSE THEIR PEOPLE WERE LOYAL, WORKED HARD AND WERE DEDICATED SO THAT WHATEVER ACTION TAKEN BY WESTERN COUNTRIES DID NOT RESTRICT THEIR GROWTH.

HE ADVISED MALAYSIANS TO WORK NOT MERELY TO EARN AN INCOME BUT IN THE INTEREST OF THEIR COMPANY, THE RACE AND THE COUNTRY.

IF THE PEOPLE HAD SUCH AN ATTITUDE, THEY WOULD NOT AT ALL FEEL BORED TO COME TO WORK BUT WOULD FEEL HAPPY AND PROUD THUS ENABLING THE COMPANY TO ACHIEVE SUCCESS AND IN TURN THEY THEMSELVES AS WELL AS THE NATION WOULD BENEFIT. -- MORE  
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MAHATHIR-UTUSAN 3 KUALA LUMPUR

+LOVE, LOYALTY AND DEDICATION TO THE COMPANY CAN ONLY BE FOUND IN COUNTRIES WHICH NOW HAD ACHIEVED PROGRESS FOR IF THE WORKERS ARE NOT LOYAL TO THE COMPANY OR THEIR EMPLOYER IT IS CERTAIN THAT THE COUNTRY CONCERNED WILL NOT ACHIEVE PROGRESS,+ HE SAID.

SUCH DEDICATION AND HARDWORK HAD ENABLED JAPAN TO ACHIEVE SUCCESS, THE PRIME MINISTER ADDED.

IF MALAYSIANS HAD SUCH AN ATTITUDE AND THE COUNTRY IN TURN ACHIEVED SUCCESS, THE PEOPLE THEMSELVES COULD LEAD A MORE PROSPEROUS LIFE, HE SAID.

ON UTUSAN MELAYU'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY, DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID THE COMPANY WOULD CONTINUE TO EXPAND AND PROGRESS IF THE EMPLOYEES GAVE PRIORITY TO ITS SUCCESS RATHER THAN TO PERSONAL INTERESTS.

THE EMPLOYEES WOULD NOT FEEL BORED IF THEY ONLY HAD A LITTLE FEELING THAT IT WAS THEIR COMPANY AND FELT PROUD OVER IT.

THE PRIME MINISTER COMMENDED THE MANAGEMENT AND STAFF OF THE UTUSAN ON THEIR ACHIEVEMENTS AND EFFORTS MAKING IT POSSIBLE FOR THE PAPER TO SURVIVE SO LONG COMPARED WITH PRE-WAR PUBLICATIONS SUCH AS +MAJLIS+ AND +WARTA NEGARA+ WHICH WERE NO MORE. -- MORE

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REPETITION REPLACING GARBLED TAKE RRR

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HOPING THAT UTUSAN MELAYU WOULD CONTINUE TO PROGRESS, DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR REMINDED THE COMPANY'S EMPLOYEES THAT THE SUCCESS OF ANY COMPANY WOULD HAVE A MAJOR EFFECT ON ITS WORKERS.

HE ALSO HOPED THAT HIS VISIT TO THE NEWSPAPER OFFICE WOULD NOT BE MISCONSTRUED BY ANYONE INTO ALLEGING THAT IT WAS A GOVERNMENT PAPER.

ON THE NEWSPAPER'S CONTENTS, THE PRIME MINISTER SAID EVEN THOUGH AT TIMES HE WAS OFFENDED BY REPORTS PUBLISHED BY THE PAPER NEVERTHELESS IT WAS THE NEWSPAPER'S RIGHT TO CRITICISE.

THE PRIME MINISTER AND DATUK SERI DATIN PADUKA DR SITI HASMAH WERE RECEIVED ON ARRIVAL BY UTUSAN EXECUTIVE CHAIRMAN DATUK KHALID ABDULLAH, EDITOR-IN-CHIEF ZAINUDDIN MAIDIN AND THE UTUSAN BOARD MEMBERS.

ALSO PRESENT WAS INFORMATION MINISTER DATUK MOHAMED RAHMAT.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR AND HIS WIFE WERE BRIEFED BY DATUK KHALID AFTER WHICH THE PRIME MINISTER VISITED THE NEWSROOM.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR ALSO COMMISSIONED AN ADDITIONAL PRINTING MACHINE AND OBSERVED THE PRINTING OF A LIMITED NUMBER OF UTUSAN MALAYSIA COPIES CARRIED OUT IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE VISIT.

ALL THREE PREVIOUS PRIME MINISTERS OF MALAYSIA HAD ALSO VISITED THE UTUSAN OFFICE. -- BERNAMA

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