

D691

U E914 AAE
MAHATHIR-INDUSTRIES

KEMAMAN, JUNE 29 (BERNAMA) -- PRIME MINISTER DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD TODAY SAID THAT THE PEOPLE SHOULD NOT HAVE ANY RESERVATIONS ABOUT LEARNING ESPECIALLY IN THE MANAGEMENT FIELD FOR WHICH THEY ARE LACKING IN SKILLS.

+WE ARE AWARE THAT WE LACKED THE KNOWLEDGE BUT WE SHOULD NOT BE SHY ... WE SHOULD BE ASHAMED IF WE ARE NOT WILLING TO LEARN AND PEOPLE WHO ARE NOT WILLING TO LEARN WILL NOT PROGRESS,+ HE SAID.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THAT IN EFFORTS TO LEARN, THE QUESTION OF WHO WAS THE +TEACHER+ SHOULD NOT BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT FOR AS LONG AS THE TEACHER WAS EFFICIENT IN HIS PARTICULAR FIELD.

+WHEN WE DO NOT HAVE THE KNOWLEDGE ON HEAVY INDUSTRIES, WE THEREFORE NEED TO LEARN FROM THOSE SKILLED IN THAT FIELD,+ HE SAID WHEN OPENING WISMA WAJA AT THE PREMISES OF THE PERWAJA SDN BHD FACTORY HERE.

EARLIER, DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR WAS WELCOMED ON ARRIVAL BY A KOMPANG GROUP AND BUNGA MANGGAR BEARERS. -- MORE
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MAHATHIR-INDUSTRIES 2 KEMAMAN

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THAT THE GOVERNMENT WAS AWARE OF CRITICS CLAIMING THAT THE NATION'S HEAVY INDUSTRIES POLICY WAS UNSUITABLE FOR THE COUNTRY.

THE PARTIES CONCERNED SHOULD FIRST STUDY WHETHER WHAT WAS UNSUITABLE WAS THE POLICY OR ITS IMPLEMENTATION, HE SAID.

+OUR POLICY IS SUITABLE BUT TO MAKE IT A SUCCESS WE SHOULD KNOW HOW TO IMPLEMENT THE POLICY EFFECTIVELY,+ HE ADDED.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THAT THERE WERE MANUFACTURERS INCURRING LOSSES IN THE PAST BUT HAD NOW REAPED PROFITS FOLLOWING +OUR ACTION IN NOT BEING SHY TO LEARN FROM THOSE WHO WERE EFFICIENT.+

+WHEN OUR MANUFACTURERS DID NOT SUCCEED, WE THEN NEED TO LOOK FOR EFFICIENT PEOPLE TO RUN THE FACTORIES BUT THESE CHANGES HAD ATTRACTED POLITICAL CRITICISM,+ HE ADDED. -- MORE
1403MST 29 06 89

D703

U E921 AAE
MAHATHIR-INDUSTRIES 3 KEMAMAN

+BUT WE SHOULD REALISE THAT IT WOULD HAVE BEEN WORSE IF WE WERE NOT BOLD ENOUGH TO TAKE ACTION IN RESTRUCTURING THE MANAGEMENT,+ HE SAID.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THAT PERWAJA SDN BHD HAD RECOVERED AND THE REASON BEING THAT THE MANAGEMENT HAD BEEN TAKEN OVER BY EFFICIENT PEOPLE.

A SIMILAR SITUATION OCCURRED IN THE PROTON SAGA INDUSTRY WHICH RECORDED A PROFIT OF \$32 MILLION LAST YEAR AND ESTIMATED TO INCREASE THIS YEAR, HE ADDED.

+WHAT IS OF INTEREST IS THAT THE SUCCESS WAS ACHIEVED FROM THE SAME SOURCES AND INVESTMENT BUT BECAUSE OF GOOD MANAGEMENT,+ HE SAID.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID THAT THE GOVERNMENT'S PURPOSE IN RESTRUCTURING THE MANAGEMENT WAS TO ENABLE THE EXECUTIVE PERSONNEL UNDER THEM TO LEARN AND ACQUIRE SKILLS SO THAT THEY COULD MANAGE THE FACTORIES ON THEIR OWN IN FUTURE. -- MORE
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U E924 AAE
MAHATHIR-INDUSTRIES 4 KEMAMAN

HE ALSO SAID THAT THE PRESENT MANAGEMENT OF PERWAJA (HEADED BY MANAGING DIRECTOR TAN SRI ERIC CHIA) WAS NOT PERMANENT BECAUSE THEIR TASK WAS TO CHANNEL MANAGEMENT SKILLS TO THE EXECUTIVE PERSONNEL OF THE FACTORY.

THE SAME DIRECTIVE APPLIED TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND MANAGEMENT OF THE PROTON SAGA FACTORY, HE SAID.

THE PRIME MINISTER THEN REMINDED THE EXECUTIVES, ESPECIALLY AT PERWAJA SDN BHD, TO STRIVE HARDER TO ACQUIRE EFFICIENCY FROM THE NEW MANAGEMENT.

+THE EXECUTIVES OF THE FACTORY CANNOT JUST REMAIN IN THEIR AIR CONDITIONED ROOMS. THEY SHOULD KNOW WHAT IS HAPPENING IN THE FACTORY AND TO GET TO KNOW THE WORKERS BETTER.+

ALSO PRESENT WERE TERENGGANU MENTERI BESAR TAN SRI HAJI WAN MOKHTAR AHMAD, DEPUTY MINISTER OF HOUSING AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT DATUK HAJI HUSSEIN AHMAD, PERWAJA CHAIRMAN TAN SRI ZAINAL ABIDIN SULONG AND TAN SRI CHIA.

THE PRIME MINISTER LATER RELEASED A CLUSTER OF BALLOONS TO MARK THE OPENING AND VISIT THE FACTORY. -- BERNAMA
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