

0579

U E003 AAE
MAHATHIR-LANGUAGE
BM

SHAH ALAM, NOV 23 (BERNAMA) -- THE GOVERNMENT HAS DECIDED TO STRESS ON THE LEARNING OF THE JAPANESE LANGUAGE AMONG WORKERS AND EXECUTIVES INVOLVED DIRECTLY IN THE COUNTRY'S INDUSTRIALISATION, PRIME MINISTER DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD SAID TODAY.

HE SAID THAT THE WORKERS' COMMAND OF THE LANGUAGE NEED NOT BE VERY HIGH BUT EXECUTIVES SHOULD MASTER THE LANGUAGE FOR THEIR JOB REQUIREMENT.

FOR THIS PURPOSE, THE GOVERNMENT WOULD PROVIDE SEVERAL FACILITIES FOR THEM TO LEARN THE LANGUAGE, HE SAID WHEN OPENING THE MATSUSHITA TELEVISION CO (MALAYSIA) SDN BHD (MTV) PLANT AT THE SHAH ALAM INDUSTRIAL ZONE.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THAT GOVERNMENT OFFICERS HAD BEEN ENCOURAGED TO LEARN THE JAPANESE LANGUAGE AND HOPED THAT JAPANESE FIRMS WOULD ASSIST IN THIS EFFORT.

HE SAID THAT MALAYSIAN WORKERS AND EXECUTIVES SHOULD VIEW THIS EFFORT POSITIVELY, ADDING THAT +THE MOVE IS NOT AIMED AT MAKING US JAPANESE.+

+IF WE WANT TO PROGRESS AND BE SUCCESSFUL, WE SHOULD LEARN FROM THOSE WHO HAVE PROGRESSED AND BECOME SUCCESSFUL. THERE IS NOTHING MORE EFFECTIVE IN LEARNING ABOUT HOW OTHERS HAVE SUCCEEDED THAN TO UNDERSTAND THEIR LANGUAGE,+ HE SAID. -- MORE
1714MST 23 11 89

D580

U E004 AAE
MAHATHIR-LANGUAGE 2 SHAH ALAM

SPEAKING TO REPORTERS LATER, DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID THAT IT WOULD NOT BE MADE COMPULSORY FOR WORKERS AND EXECUTIVES TO MASTER THE LANGUAGE BUT THAT THEY WERE ENCOURAGED TO ACQUIRE KNOWLEDGE.

EARLIER IN HIS SPEECH, THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THAT LOCAL STAFF AND WORKERS SHOULD STRIVE HARD TO LEARN AND ACQUIRE SKILLS AT THEIR PLACE OF WORK AND NOT MERELY WAIT TO BE TAUGHT.

HE SAID THAT THEY SHOULD ALSO WORK HARD BECAUSE LOCAL WORKERS FORMED A COMPONENT THAT COULD ATTRACT INVESTORS TO THE COUNTRY.

+WHEN WE CONDUCT AN INVESTMENT PROMOTION, ONE OF THE FACTORS THAT INVESTORS ARE INFORMED IS THAT MALAYSIA HAS AN EFFICIENT AND SKILLED WORKFORCE WITH A REASONABLE LEVEL OF EDUCATION TO ENABLE THEM TO UNDERGO ANY FORM OF TRAINING,+ HE SAID.

HE SAID THAT WORKERS MUST REALISE THAT IF NOT FOR THE WILLINGNESS OF THE FOREIGN INVESTORS TO INVEST IN THE COUNTRY, MORE JOB OPPORTUNITIES COULD NOT BE CREATED. -- BERNAMA

1716MST 23 11 89