

D810

B E681 AAE
MAHATHIR - CHATICHAJ
FROM KUAH GUAN 00 90

PATTAYA, MARCH 25 (BERNAMA) -- MALAYSIA AND THAILAND HAVE OVERCOME THEIR DIFFERENCES AND REACHED A PACT ON A PROFIT-SHARING SCHEME IN THE EXPLOITATION OF MINERAL RESOURCES IN THEIR OVERLAPPING TERRITORIAL WATERS OFF KELANTAN, DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMED SAID TODAY.

+ALTOGETHER, WE HAD A VERY FRUITFUL VISIT AND WE ARE HAPPY THAT UNDERSTANDING HAS BEEN REACHED ON MANY ISSUES (BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES)+ HE SAID IN JOINT PRESS CONFERENCE WITH HIS THAI HOST, GENERAL CHATICHAJ CHOONHAVAN AT THE CONCLUSION OF THEIR TWO-DAY MEETING IN THIS BEACH RESORT.

HE SAID ALTHOUGH THEY WERE NOT ABLE TO INITIAL THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ON THE MALAYSIA-THAILAND JOINT DEVELOPEMENT AUTHORITY (JDA), THE BODY TO OVERSEE THE EXPOITATION OF MINERAL RESOURCES IN THEIR COMMON WATERS, THEY WERE ABLE TO RESOLVE THEIR DIFFERENCES.

+WE WILL SIGN THE MEMORANDUM LATER IN TIME FOR US TO PRESENT TO OUR PARLIAMENT IN JUNE,+ HE SAID.

THE BASIS FOR THE SETTING UP OF THE JDA WAS CONTAINED IN A MEMORANDUM SIGNED IN 1979 BY THEN PRIME MINISTERS TUN HUSSEIN ONN AND GEN. KRIANGSAK CHOMANAN. THE JDA WAS TO OVERSEE THE EXPLOITATION OF GAS AND PETROLEUM RESOURCES IN 7,300 SQ KM OF WATER IN THE GULF OF THAILAND. -- MORE

1905MST 25 03 90

B E682 AAE
MAHATHIR - CHATICHAJ 2 PATTAYA

SENIOR OFFICIALS OF THE TWO COUNTRIES WORKED TILL THE EARLY HOURS OF THIS MORNING TO IRON OUT THEIR DIFFERENCES OVER AMONG OTHER THINGS THE QUESTION OF SOVEREIGNTY AND CIVIL JURISDICTION.

THE MALAYSIAN PRIME MINISTER SAID THE AGREEMENT REACHED ON THE JDA DID NOT INCLUDE LIVING MARINE RESOURCES. +WE WOULD LOOK AT IT AT LATER DATE+, HE ADDED.

ON THE THAI PROPOSAL ON NEUTRAL CAMPS IN KAMPUCHEA AS A MOVE TO SOLVE THE LONG-DRAWN KAMPUCHEAN CONFLICT, HE SAID: +WE ARE GOING TO STUDY AS IT IS SOMETHING NEW. IF IT IS FEASIBLE, WE WILL SUPPORT IT+.

THE NEUTRAL CAMP MOOTED BY GEN CHATICHAJ IS TO POOL THE KAMPUCHEAN FACTIONS FIGHTING THE PHNOM PENH REGIME INTO A CAMP SIMILAR TO THE NEW VILLAGES SET UP IN MALAYSIA TO COUNTER THE COMMUNIST INSURGENCY.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID THERE COULD BE +OBJECTIONS BY CERTAIN PEOPLE OR COUNTRY+ LIKE KAMPUCHEA. +OF COURSE OTHER PEOPLE MUST ALSO SUPPORT IT+. -- MORE

1906MST 25 03 90

B E685 AAE
MAHATHIR-CHATICHAI 3 PATTAYA

THE MALAYSIAN LEADER WHO ENUMERATED SEVERAL ISSUES RESOLVED IN THE MEETING WITH GEN CHATICHAI SAID TIES BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES HAD ALWAYS BEEN VERY GOOD, ADDING THAT +IT COULD ONLY BE BETTER AFTER THIS VISIT.+

AMONG THE ISSUES RESOLVED WERE:

-- THAILAND AGREEING TO EXTEND THE SAME RIGHTS FOR MALAYSIAN GOODS INTO LAOS ONCE THE THAI GOVERNMENT HAS COMPLETED ITS LAND BRIDGE INTO THE LAND-LOCKED INDOCHINESE COUNTRY=

-- RESOLVING THE OVERLAPPING TV FREQUENCY ON THEIR BORDER AREAS BY MAKING SOME TECHNICAL CHANGES WITH THAI HELP=

-- COOPERATION IN THE TOURISM DRIVE BY EXPEDITING THE MALAYSIAN-PROPOSED +ORIENT EXPRESS+ FROM SINGAPORE THROUGH MALAYSIA TO BANGKOK AND CHENGMAI=

-- THAILAND TO FACILITATE DAY TRIPS BY TOURIST IN PULAU LANGKAWI TO THE THAI ISLANDS OF ADANG AND TARUTAO JUST NORTH OF LANGKAWI. --
MORE

1922MST 25 03 90

MAHATHIR-CHATICHAI 4 PATTAYA

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR ALSO SAID THAT THE GENERAL BORDER COMMITTEE (GBC) SET UP IN 1965 TO LOOK INTO THE SECURITY OF THAI-MALAYSIA LAND AND SEA BORDERS WOULD BE MAINTAINED.

MALAYSIA HAS ALSO AGREED TO SUPPLY THAILAND WITH 120,000 TONNES OF CEMENT A YEAR WHILE STEPS WOULD BE TAKEN TO INCREASE ITS CEMENT PRODUCTION.

IN TURN, THAILAND WOULD ALSO IMPORT 5,000 TONNES OF HYDROGENATED PALM OIL A YEAR FROM MALAYSIA.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID MALAYSIA WOULD ALSO BE SENDING ITS OFFICIALS TO THAILAND FOR TALKS ON COOPERATION IN THE AUTOMOBILE INDUSTRY.

+WE HAD SOLID DISCUSSIONS ON THESE AREAS AND FROM NOW ON, WE CAN EXPEDITE CERTAIN PROJECTS IN THE PIPELINE,+ DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR ADDED.

EARLY THIS MORNING, THE MALAYSIAN LEADER VISITED THE GIGANTIC LAEM PRABANG PORT COMPLEX WHICH IS MEANT TO DECENTRALISE BANGKOK. THE COMPLEX, ABOUT 140KM SOUTH OF THE THAI CAPITAL, IS PART OF THE THAI EASTERN SEABOARD DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME THAT INCLUDED THE CONVERSION OF THE U-TAPAO AIRBASE INTO A COMMERCIAL AIRPORT. -- MORE
1937MST 25 03 90

D824

B E691 AAE
MAHATHIR-CHATICHAI 5 PATTAYA

ACCOMPANIED BY GEN CHATICHAI FROM THE START OF THE TOUR, HE AND HIS HIGH-LEVEL DELEGATION OF 25 LATER VISITED THE PETRO-CHEMICAL COMPLEX AT MAP TA PHUT, JUST SOUTH OF PATTAYA.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR TOLD NEWSMEN IN THE PRESS CONFERENCE THAT THAILAND WAS VERY ADVANCED AND FAR AHEAD OF MALAYSIA, WITH ITS EASTERN SEABOARD DEVELOPMENT AND THE PLANNED SOUTHERN SEABOARD DEVELOPMENT.

+WE HAVE A LOT TO LEARN,+ HE SAID, ADDING THAT HIS VISIT TO THE RESORT HAD GIVEN HIM SOME IDEAS ON PROMOTING TOURISM IN MALAYSIA.

HE HAD, AFTER HIS TALKS WITH GEN CHATICHAI ON SATURDAY, TOURED THE CITY OF PATTAYA.

HE SAID HE EXPECTED TO HAVE JOINT TOURISM PROMOTION WITH THAILAND. +IN FACT, WE ARE ALREADY DOING IT WITH THE ORIENT EXPRESS,+ HE SAID. -- MORE
1939MST 25 03 90

D825

B E692 AAE
MAHATHIR-CHATICHAI 6 PATTAYA

HE ALSO SAID THAT HE WAS THINKING OF INCREASING FLIGHT SERVICES FROM PHUKET TO LANGKAWI AND PULAU PINANG.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR LATER LEFT FOR HOME FROM THE U-TAPAO AIRPORT WHERE HE WAS SEEN OFF BY GEN CHATICHAI AND THAI FOREIGN MINISTER AIR CHIEF MARSHALL SIDDHI SAVETSILA.

THIS WAS DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR'S FIRST TRIP TO THAILAND FOR TALKS WITH GEN CHATICHAI SINCE THE THAI LEADER CAME INTO POWER MORE THAN A YEAR AGO. -- BERNAMA

0835

B E697 AAE
MAHATHIR-CHATICHAI 7 PATTAYA (REOPENS E692)

SPEAKING TO NEWSMEN IN KUALA LUMPUR UPON HIS RETURN, DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR DESCRIBED HIS TWO-DAY VISIT TO THAILAND AS +VERY SUCCESSFUL.+

HE SAID THE VISIT HAD FURTHER ENHANCED RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES.

AT THE PRESS CONFERENCE, DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR ALSO DISCLOSED THE OUTCOME OF HIS VISIT.

THE PRIME MINISTER AND HIS ENTOURAGE ARRIVED AT THE ROYAL MALAYSIAN AIR FORCE STATION IN SUNGAI BESI AT 5.15PM.

HE WAS MET ON ARRIVAL BY HIS WIFE, DATUK SERI DATIN PADUKA DR SITI HASMAH MOHAMED ALI. -- BERNAMA

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