

D124

U E690 ENG MES

MAHATHIR-WORKERS R'R'R'

BM

SUNGAI PETANI, AUG 23 (BERNAMA) -- PRIME MINISTER DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD HAS REMINDED FACTORIES AND THEIR WORKERS OF THE PITFALLS OF OVER DEPENDENCE ON GENERALISED SYSTEM OF PREFERENCE (GSP) PRIVILEGES.

THEY SHOULD GET AROUND THIS BY BOOSTING PRODUCTION AND IMPROVING QUALITY OF THEIR GOODS SO THAT MORE COULD BE EXPORTED AND CHEAPLY, HE SAID.

INCREASED VOLUME COULD CUT PRODUCTION COSTS AND WITH IMPROVED QUALITY AND CHEAPER PRICE, MALAYSIAN PRODUCTS WOULD HAVE THE COMPETITIVE EDGE IN WORLD MARKET, HE SAID.

+ MALAYSIA CANNOT DEPEND ON THE GSP. ONCE THE BENEFITS ARE WITHDRAWN WE WILL BE LEFT WITH UNSOLD PRODUCTS IF THEY ARE COSTLIER THAN OTHERS,+ HE SAID WHEN ADDRESSING FACTORY WORKERS IN BAKAR ARANG HERE TODAY.

HE SAID THE UNITED STATES ANNUALLY REVIEWS GSP PRIVILEGES ACCORDED EACH COUNTRY INCLUDING MALAYSIA.-- MORE
1428MST 2 3 08 9 0

D131

U E693 EN6 MES

MAHATHIR-WORKERS 2 SUNGAI PETANI R'R'R'

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID TO HELP THE COUNTRY ATTAIN THE STATUS OF AN INDUSTRIALISED NATION! MALAYSIAN WORKERS WERE EXPECTED TO GIVE THEIR BEST.

ON ACHIEVING THAT STATUS, THE PEOPLE COULD EXPECT A BETTER-LIFE AS PER CAPITA INCOME INCREASED ACCORDINGLY, HE SAID.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR REMINDED WORKERS NOT TO RESORT TO INDUSTRIAL ACTION THAT WOULD PUT THE NATION AT A DISADVANTAGE.

THEY SHOULD INSTEAD DISCUSS THEIR GROUSES WITH THE EMPLOYERS AS STRIKES AND INDUSTRIAL SABOTAGE COULD ONLY BE EFFECTIVE IN THE SHORT RUN.

+ IN THE LONG RUN, SUCH ACTIONS WILL ONLY DRIVE AWAY THEIR EMPLOYERS TO SET UP FACTORIES ELSEWHERE?+ HE SAID.

WORKERS MUST ALWAYS STRIVE TO ENSURE PROFITABILITY OF THEIR COMPANIES' OPERATIONS AND THOSE WHO SERVED SATISFACTORILY WOULD BE COMPENSATED WITH HIGHER RETURNS, HE SAID.-- MORE
1447MST 2 3 08 9 0

D135

U E695 ENG MES
MAHATHIR-WORKERS 3 SUNGAI PETANI R'R'R'

EARLXER DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR VISITED THE PINANG TUNGGAL WATER PURIFICATION PLANT.

ENCIK MOHSIN MOHAMAD RASHID OF KUMARASIVAM, TAN AND ARIFFIN CONSULTING ENGINEERS SDN BHD BRIEFED THE PRIME MINISTER THAT THE \$40-MILLION PROJECT WOULD SUPPLY AMPLE WATER TO MORE THAN 100,000 RESIDENTS IN KUALA MUD4 DISTRICT..

NOW 40 PER CENT COMPLETED AND EXPECTED TO BE READY BY JULY NEXT YEAR, THE PLANT WOULD SUPPLY 99 MILLION LITRES OF WATER DAILY COMPARED WITH 54 MILLION LXTRES PRESENTLY.

FACTORIES IN BAKAR ARANG, TIKAM BATU AND SUNG41 PETANI AS WELL AS SEVERAL AREAS ST-ILL WITHOUT PIPED WATER SUCH AS PANT41 MERDEKA AND KUALA MUD4 WOULD ALSO GET THEIR SUPPLY FROM THE PLANT.

ALSO PRESENT WERE DATUK PADUKA DATIN SERI DR SITI HASMAH ALI, ENERGY, TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND POSTS MINISTER DATUK SERI S.SAMY VELLU, FINANCE MINISTER DATUK PADUKA DAIM ZAINUDDIN, PRIMARY INDUSTRIES MINISTER DATUK, SERI DR LIM KENG YAIK AND KEDAH MENTERI BESAR DATUK SERI HAJI OSMAN AROFF. -- BERNAMA
1510MST 2 3 089 0