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MAHATHIR-PINEAPPLES
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KUALA LUMPUR, SEPT 3⁹⁰ (BERNAMA) -- THE UNITED STATES HAS LIFTED THE BAN ON IMPORTS OF CUBED PINEAPPLES FROM MALAYSIA AFTER STUDIES SHOWED THAT THE FRUITS DID NOT POSE A HEALTH HAZARD TO CONSUMERS.

PRIME MINISTER DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID HERE TODAY HE WAS INFORMED OF THE DECISION BY THE DIRECTOR OF FOOD PRODUCT POLICY OF THE FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION (FDA) OF AMERICA, RICHARD RONK.

SPEAKING TO REPORTERS AFTER OPENING THE FIRST ASIAN CONFERENCE ON FOOD SAFETY HERE, HE SAID THE UNITED STATES HAD BANNED THE IMPORT OF THE MALAYSIAN PINEAPPLES CLAIMING THEY WERE OF LOW-QUALITY AND DANGEROUS TO CONSUMERS' HEALTH.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID SUCH LABELLING OF MALAYSIAN PRODUCTS HAD AFFECTED THE EXPORT OF THE COUNTRY'S PRODUCTS.

ENCIK RONK, WHO IS ALSO ATTENDING THE CONFERENCE TOLD REPORTERS FDA STUDIES ON THE PINEAPPLES CONDUCTED IN THE EARLY 80'S SHOWED THE FRUITS WERE SAFE FOR CONSUMPTION. -- BERNAMA

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