

D118

R E692 AAE
MAHATHIR-CITIZENSHIP
BM

BANDAR DARULAMAN, SEPT 20 (BERNAMA) -- THOUSANDS OF MALAYSIAN CITIZENS HAVE LOST THEIR CITIZENSHIP FOR HOLDING FOREIGN CITIZENSHIP, STAYING TOO LONG ABROAD AND VOTING IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES, PRIME MINISTER DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD SAID TODAY.

HE SAID THE GOVERNMENT CONSTANTLY MONITORED THE ACTIVITIES OF MALAYSIANS STAYING ABROAD AND IF THEY WERE FOUND TO HAVE COMMITTED SUCH OFFENCES, THEIR CITIZENSHIP WOULD BE WITHDRAWN.

+THEY ARE THOSE WHO HAD STAYED TOO LONG OR HAD CARRIED OUT ACTIVITIES CONFINED TO FOREIGNERS, LIKE VOTING. WE HAVE CANCELLED ALL THEIR NAMES,+ HE SAID IN A DIALOGUE WITH GOVERNMENT OFFICERS AT DEWAN MUADZAM SHAH, DARULAMAN CAMPUS, UNIVERSITI UTARA MALAYSIA HERE.

HE SAID THE GOVERNMENT WAS AWARE THAT MANY CITIZENS OF THIS COUNTRY HELD FOREIGN CITIZENSHIP AND IF SUCH MATTERS WERE STILL DETECTED IN FUTURE THE SAME ACTION WOULD BE TAKEN AGAINST THOSE INVOLVED.

ON THE PROPOSAL TO ALLOW GOVERNMENT OFFICERS TO RETIRE AT AGE 40, HE SAID NOT ALL GOVERNMENT OFFICERS WOULD BE ALLOWED TO DO SO.
-- MORE

2205MST 20 09 90

D131

R E703 AAE
MAHATHIR-CITIZENSHIP 2 BANDAR DARULAMAN

+ONLY THOSE PERMITTED BY THE GOVERNMENT CAN RETIRE AT AGE 40,+ HE SAID.

HE ADDED THAT THE GOVERNMENT WOULD PROBABLY ONLY ALLOW THEM TO RETIRE IF UPON THEIR RETIREMENT THEIR DUTIES NEED NOT BE TAKEN OVER BY NEW STAFF.

REPLYING TO ANOTHER QUESTION, THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THERE WAS NO OTHER INVESTMENT SCHEME IN THE WORLD LIKE THE AMANAH SAHAM NASIONAL (ASN) WHICH WAS INTRODUCED TO HELP THE PEOPLE.

HE SAID THE ASN, WHICH WAS IMPLEMENTED TO HELP THE BUMIPUTERAS, INCLUDING THOSE OF THAI AND PORTUGUESE DESCENT, HAD NEVER SUFFERED ANY LOSS EVEN WHEN THE COUNTRY WAS FACING AN ECONOMIC RECESSION.

HE ALSO SAID THERE WERE NO OTHER SHARES THAT GAVE A RETURN OF 13 TO 17 PER CENT A YEAR.

HE REGRETTED THAT THERE WERE PEOPLE WHO DID NOT UNDERSTAND THE TRUE OBJECTIVES OF THE ASN AND APPRECIATE THE SCHEME. -- BERNAMA
2227MST 20 09 90