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EMPLOYERS AND WORKERS DEPEND ON EACH OTHER

Workers-Mahathir'

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KUALA LUMPUR, April 30 (Bernama) -- Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today employers and workers are dependent on each other and **should** always take care of each other's interests.

In his Workers Day message, the prime minister said: **+Just** as employers cannot ignore their employees's interests, the workers too cannot ignore their employers' interests.+

+There are workers because there are employers and vice versa. One cannot exist without the other, he added.

Dr Mahathir said the government would always balance the interests of the employers and workers because it was responsible for the people's well-being and the country's progress.

It would not allow industrial disputes to protract because this would not only threaten national development and the people's well-being but would also be to the detriment of the employers and workers, he added. -- more

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There was no favouritism in this matter. What was important was the people and the country, he said.

The prime minister also touched on the ulterior motive of union leaders of developed countries who are constantly highlighting the **issue** of workers's rights in developing countries.

He said these leaders were worried about the competition posed by the products of developing countries.

If the-workers of developing nations held strikes and demanded higher wages, the goods of developed countries would have a competitive edge over those of developing countries.

By developing their products, the workers of developed countries would be able to demand a wage hike, he said.

+Let us not be taken in by them,+ he added. -- more

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The prime minister said wages be increased without strikes or threats.

The best way to raise one's income was through industrial peace which would step up investments to the extent that there were not enough workers, he said

Then employers would have to offer higher wages to get the workers they needed.

+The more peaceful the industrial arena, the more productive the industry and the more the investors,+ he added.

In conjunction with Workers Day tomorrow, Dr Mahathir called on Malaysians to sincerely cooperate to building the nation, saying: Riots, conflicts and disputes have never benefited anyone. -- Bernama

▼30/04/15-15MST