

CNS4094

U GE 15-04 00194 EB083

aae tbe

Rptng, adding venue in third para.

Mahathir-bonus

GOVT UNABLE TO MEET CUEPACS' CLAIM FOR BONUS, SAYS DR M

bm

MELAKA, April 15 (Bernama) -- A stagnant national income and higher expenditure on infrastructure development last year were among the reasons why the government could not meet Cuepacs' claim for bonus for civil servants last year and in 1991, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today.

He said Cuepacs should be patient because the government rejected its application as it was unable to pay the bonus.

The government was unable to pay bonus because in 1992 civil servants had just received a salary increase, he told reporters after opening a convention on Melaka in World Heritage near here.

He said the government had to spend much money last year on infrastructure development, such as construction of roads, airports and ports, which was necessary for economic development.

He said infrastructure development was an important investment. It was also a long-term programme to help step up the economy in the future, he added. -- more

AH ARA MGN

♥15/04/21-33MST

CNS4097

U GE 15-04 00086 EB084

aae tbe

Mahathir-bonus 2 (last) Melaka

Speaking at the function, he said lessons should be learned from history to help the nation achieve progress and excellence.

"As an educated and civilised race, we are able to plan and do what is necessary in accordance with the situation.

"We must accept our mistakes and rectify them. Only the arrogant will not want to admit their mistakes and rectify them," he said. -- Bernama

AH ARA MGN

♥15/04/21-37MST