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SENATE: POSITIVE VIEWS FROM US ON M'SIA

KUALA LUMPUR, July 3 (Bernama) -- The United States (US) has positive views on Malaysia's leadership after Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad met President George W. Bush last May.

Speaking in the Dewan Negara here today, Deputy Foreign Minister Datuk Dr Leo Michael Toyad said as a result of the meeting, the Bush administration now viewed positively any developments in Malaysia.

To the question by Senator Rosli Mat Hassan, he said Malaysia and US were now moving towards the thawing of the previously cold bilateral relations between the two countries.

"Dr Mahathir's visit has bridged differences and improved political relations between Malaysia and US, including that on efforts to combat terrorism where both parties signed an accord to cooperate over this issue," he said.

He said the meeting was significant as it showed that the US recognized Dr Mahathir as a leader of the Muslim world, and capable of giving positive views on international issues.

-- BERNAMA

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