

(SUN) - 8 OCT 2003
**Mahathir is architect of
modern trade unions: Cuepacs**

KUALA LUMPUR: Cuepacs considers Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad as the architect of the modern Malaysian trade union movement as he has given it a new impetus and meaning which enhances workers' well being.

Cuepacs president Datuk N. Siva Subramaniam said Mahathir had a soft spot for workers and during his tenure, had done a lot to improve the lot of workers, particularly civil servants.

Siva, who retires from government service today, said Mahathir was the only prime minister in the world who negotiated directly with civil servants.

Mahathir did away with expensive and time-consuming salaries commissions and preferred to deal directly with the unions, he added.