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Scanners-China

M'SIA TO DEPLOY CHINA-MADE SCANNERS AT CHECK POINTS

KANGAR, June 3 (Bernama) -- The government plans to install China-made scanners to bolster security at all its immigration check-points.

Malaysia needed about 15 additional scanners, besides the existing 15 scanners, to be located at airports, seaports and strategic check-points, Deputy Finance Minister Datuk Dr Shafie Mohd Salleh said.

The machines, he said will also help facilitate the monitoring of the inflow and outflow of goods.

Negotiations are in progress between both countries and the scanners cost would depend on the outcome of the talk, he told reporters after presenting a paper at the seminar on Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad's thoughts.

He said Dr Mahathir was a powerful national symbol as he possessed the leadership qualities.

The prime minister was brave, innovative, had the fighting spirit and never lost focus when pressured. He saved the economy during the currency crisis and remained a respectable Islamic leader, he said.

Meanwhile, Deputy Information Minister Datuk Zainuddin Maidin said Dr Mahathir had fulfilled his 1981 pledge to create a respectable Bangsa Malaysia.

He was the architect in building a vibrant Bangsa Malaysia in a multi-racial society.

Zainuddin, who was also a journalist, said in an article published in June 28, 1981, Dr Mahathir said Malaysians would be respected for their progress and strength.

Zainuddin said he still recalled the prime minister's words "the most important duty is to continue the efforts to make the nation a respected society for their progress and strength".

On Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi who would take over the reigns from Dr Mahathir, he said the future premier had the potential to provide a similar bold leadership.

He believed Abdullah would be able to continue implementing Dr Mahathir's Vision 2020 policies.

The one-day seminar was attended by about 1,000 Umno members and was opened by party vice-president Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak.

-- BERNAMA

AD VP