

Dr Mahathir gets British carpenters' guild award

Profile
LONDON, Thurs. — Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad received the honorary award of Freedom of the Worshipful Company of Carpenters today.

The award in the form of a scroll was presented by Jasper Godwin Ridley, the master of the ancient British Guild of Carpenters at the Malaysian High Commission here.

The Prime Minister said it was a great honour to be admitted to the Freedom of the Worshipful Company which is a distinguished and ancient company.

The guild confers such an award only once in about 20 years. Among those who received the award was Queen Juliana of the Netherlands, in 1951.

The guild was established some

NST 26 MAY 1989

650 years ago by master carpenters who were responsible for constructing the wooden buildings of London during those days.

Dr Mahathir said carpentry has from his early days given him countless hours of satisfaction. "Today, it is a means of relaxation for me. There is nothing I enjoy more than to retreat from the cares of Government into my own workshop."

He said people imagined that Prime Ministers only dealt with grand designs and gestures. If only this were true ...

"In my experience, statecraft is indeed a craft. It requires all the qualities of a craftsmanship namely personal commitment and endeavour, attention to detail, learning always from experience and satisfaction in achievement."