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PM STRESSES NEED FOR ORGANISED GOVT

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Dr M reminds ministers, deputies to follow methods correctly

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PRIME Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad yesterday sent a strong message to his administration, reminding them of the need to be organised.

He said the message was relayed during a closed-door meet-

ing at a special executive programme for government administrators that included ministers and their deputies.

He said to be successful, the government needed to have a system that must be implemented correctly.

“(My message is on) the importance of being organised, (and) following methods.

“I have pointed out that the Europeans conquered the world be-

cause they were organised.

“The rest of the world were much bigger, but were not organised. Their armies were not organised,” he said after the meeting.

On what prompted him to raise the matter, Dr Mahathir said it was a message for all.

“There is a need for the government to be organised.

“(It) must have a method to succeed. (It) must be done in a cor-

rect way. That is a message for everybody.”

Dr Mahathir spent three hours with top government officials at the meeting.

Bernama reported that Economic Affairs Minister Datuk Seri Azmin Ali said Dr Mahathir emphasised the importance of ministers and their deputies working as a team with the civil service to ensure a smooth and effective administration.

“It will be a problem if we do not trust them (civil servants).

“They are there to stay, where-

as for us, we are answerable to the ‘rakyat’... and every five years, we have to go through an election,” he said.

Foreign Minister Datuk Saifuddin Abdullah, in sharing Azmin’s views, said Dr Mahathir explained the importance of having a system and method that would enable the government to serve the people better and effectively.

“It includes understanding among cabinet members, deputy ministers and civil servants.” **Additional reporting by Zanariah Abd Mutalib**