

PICKET

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JOHORE BAHRU, JAN. 24 (BERNAMA)— ABOUT 200 OF THE 900 WORKERS OF THE PINEAPPLE CANNERIES OF MALAYSIA AT PEKAN MENAS, PONTIAN, 37 MILES FROM HERE, TODAY PICKETED OVER ALLEGATIONS OF " UNJUST TREATMENT " BY THE MANAGEMENT.

THEY ALSO WANTED BETTER SALARY AND CONDITIONS OF SERVICE, BENEFITS, BONUS AND PUBLIC HOLIDAYS.

THEY CARRIED OUT THE PICKET IN FRONT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE FOOD INDUSTRIES OF MALAYSIA, DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMED, WHO WAS ON A VISIT AND OTHER OFFICIALS OF THE FACTORY DURING LUNCH BREAK.

THE WORKERS CARRIED POSTERS WHICH AMONG OTHERS READ: " WE STAND FIRMLY BEHIND TUN ABDUL RAZAK WHO IS FAIR. " "

THEY DISPERSED ABOUT 15 MINUTES LATER AFTER DR. MAHATHIR HAD SPOKE TO THEM AND PROMISED TO CONSIDER THEIR PROBLEMS.

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DR. MAHATHIR TOLD REPORTERS THAT HE COULD NOT MAKE ANY DECISION WITHOUT HEARING THE VIEWS OF THE MANAGEMENT.

EARLIER, HE VISITED ANOTHER GOVERNMENT PINEAPPLE CANNERY IN PULAI SEBATANG, EIGHT MILES FROM PONTIAN.

HE WAS BRIEFED ON THE OPERATIONS AND PROGRESS OF BOTH CANNERIES BY THE GENERAL MANAGER OF PCM, ENCIK AZIZ YASSIN, AND OTHER OFFICIALS.

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