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MAHATHIR

1973

BUTTERWORTH, JULY 8 (BERNAMA) — THE GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN URGED TO FIX THE MINIMUM PRICE OF RICE AT \$20 A PICUL.

THE CALL WAS MADE BY AN UMNO SUPREME COUNCIL MEMBER SENATOR DR. MAHATHIR BIN MOHAMED WHEN HE OPENED THE TELOK AYER TAWAR UMNO BRANCH BUILDING HERE TODAY.

EARLIER, HE COMMENDED THE NATIONAL PADI AND RICE AUTHORITY'S MOVE TO RAISE THE MINIMUM PADI PRICE IN THE MUDA AND KEMUBU AREAS FROM \$19 PER PICUL TO \$23.

HOWEVER, THE MINIMUM PRICE IN CERTAIN AREAS IN PRAI WAS STILL \$16 A PICUL.

DR. MAHATHIR SAID THE PADI PRICE IN PRAI WAS DETERMINED BY THE BUYERS WHO WERE MOSTLY MILLERS.—BERNAMA MORE 1725/MM

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MAHATHIR 2 BUTTERWORTH

THE MILLERS WERE BUYING RICE AT \$20 PER PICUL BECAUSE THEY SYMPATHISED WITH THE FARMERS.

DR. MAHATHIR ALSO CRITICISED BUMIPUTRA YOUTH WHO GAVE EXCUSES AND REFUSED JOBS OFFERED THEM.

HE SAID MANY OF THEM HAD REFUSED TO WORK ON THE SUGAR PROJECT UNDERTAKEN JOINTLY BY FELDA AND THE PRIVATE SECTOR IN PERLIS.

HE SAID THEIR ACTION WAS REGRETTABLE AND THAT THEY WOULD NOT ACHIEVE SUCCESS IF THEY WERE SO CHOOSY.—BERNAMA 1730/MM