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TANAH MERAH, AUG 17, (BERNAMA) — THE BARISAN NASIONAL WAS NOT FORMED TO PROTECT THE INTERESTS OF ITS LEADERS, UMNO SUPREME COUNCIL MEMBER DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMED SAID LAST NIGHT. ADDRESSING RALLIES AT KUBANG PUTAT AND BATU GAJAH NEAR HERE, HE SAID TUN RAZAK AND DATUK MOHAMED ASRI DID NOT COME TOGETHER FOR PERSONAL INTERESTS, AS BOTH WERE ASSURED OF THEIR POSITIONS. TUN RAZAK WOULD STILL BE PRIME MINISTER AND DATUK ASRI COULD STILL BE MENTRI BESAR OF KELANTAN WITHOUT THE BARISAN NASIONAL. — BERNAMA MORE 1535/1B

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DR. MAHATHIR SAID PARTAI RAKYAT DID NOT POSSESS A POLITICAL IDEOLOGY WHICH COULD GUARANTEE THE DEVELOPMENT OF RELIGION. THE PARTY WAS ONLY INTERESTED IN THE MATERIALISTIC ASPECTS OF LIFE, HE ADDED. AT PASIR PUTEH, LAND DEVELOPMENT AND SPECIAL FUNCTIONS MINISTER DATUK HAJI MOHAMED ASRI TOLD A RALLY THAT TUN RAZAK HAD PROMISED LARGER ALLOCATIONS FOR THE PROPAGATION OF ISLAM. THE GOVERNMENT HE SAID, BELIEVED THAT SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT SHOULD GO HAND IN HAND WITH ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT. DATUK ASRI SAID BOOKS ON ISLAM WOULD BE PRINTED IN ENGLISH SOON TO ENABLE NON-MUSLIMS TO UNDERSTAND THE RELIGION. — BERNAMA MORE 1540/1B

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THESE BOOKS WOULD BE PLACED IN VARIOUS PLACES, INCLUDING SCHOOLS, GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND HOTELS. SPEAKING AT THE SAME RALLY, KELANTAN UMNO CHARIMAN TENGKU TAN SRI RAZALEIGH HAMZAH SAID SEVERAL PEOPLE HAD APOLOGISED TO HIM FOR HELPING INDEPENDENT CANDIDATES. TENGKU TAN SRI RAZALEIGH ALSO PROMISED BUMIPUTRAS MORE OPPORTUNITIES FOR HIGHER EDUCATION. — BERNAMA 1543/1B