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MAHATHIR-OFFICERS
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KUALA TRENGGANU, JUNE 6 (BERNAMA)-- THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT WILL TRY TO SEND ITS OFFICERS TO HELP THE VARIOUS STATES IMPLEMENT THEIR DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS.

STATING THIS TODAY, THE DEPT. PRIME MINISTER, DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMED, SAID THIS WAS NECESSARY IN VIEW OF THE SHORTAGE OF OFFICERS AT STATE LEVEL.

HE SAID THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT WOULD ALSO PROVIDE ADVISORY SERVICE TO THE STATES.

SPEAKING AT A PRESS CONFERENCE HERE AFTER ENDING A TWO-DAY VISIT TO TRENGGANU, HE SAID THE ECONOMIC PLANNING UNIT WOULD SET UP BRANCHES AT STATE LEVEL TO GIVE EXPERT ADVICE ON THE DRAWING UP AND IMPLEMENTATION OF PROJECTS.

HE CONSIDERED THE SHORTAGE OF OFFICERS IN THE STATES AS A MATTER OF GRAVE CONCERN AS THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT PLANNED TO CONCENTRATE DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS IN THE LESS DEVELOPED STATES SUCH AS KELANTAN AND TRENGGANU WHICH WERE FACING SUCH A SHORTAGE. -- BERNAMA MORE 1850/1B

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DR. MAHATHIR ALSO STRESSED THAT ALLOCATIONS UNDER THE THIRD MALAYSIA PLAN WOULD BE CONCENTRATED ON PROJECTS WHICH WOULD BRING DIRECT BENEFIT TO THE PEOPLE.

THEY WOULD INCLUDE ADDITIONAL ELECTRICITY AND WATER SUPPLY TO RURAL AREAS, ERECTION OF JETTIES FOR FISHERMEN AND OTHER PROJECTS BY FELDA AND RISDA.

DR. MAHATHIR, WHO IS ALSO THE EDUCATION MINISTER, SAID A STUDY WAS STILL BEING CONDUCTED ON THE ROLE OF THE STP/HSC EXAMINATIONS TO PREPARE STUDENTS FOR THE UNIVERSITIES.

DIFFERING OPINIONS HAD BEEN SUBMITTED ON THE MATTER, HE SAID.

HE SAID COMMERCIAL SUBJECTS IN SCHOOLS WOULD BE INCREASED AND METHODS OF TEACHING THEM RE-ADAPTED TO BENEFIT BUMIPUTRA STUDENTS MORE EFFECTIVELY. -- BERNAMA 1855/1B