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MAHATHIR-FAMILY  
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257

EMBARGO: FOR RELEASE AT 9.30 P.M. TODAY, JUNE 9

KUALA LUMPUR, JUNE 9 (BERNAMA)-- DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER, DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMED, SAID TONIGHT DOCTORS AND FAMILY PLANNING ORGANISATIONS SHOULD BE MORE DISCRIMINATING IN THE DISTRIBUTION OF FAMILY PLANNING PILLS.

INDISCRIMINATE DISTRIBUTION OF THE PILLS WOULD BRING A BAD NAME TO FAMILY PLANNING AND THE ORGANISATIONS CONNECTED WITH IT, HE SAID.

HE SAID THAT UNMARRIED WOMEN SHOULD NOT TAKE THE PILL.

DR. MAHATHIR WAS LAUNCHING THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS OF THE NATIONAL FAMILY PLANNING BOARD OVER R.T.M.

HE ALSO ADVISED MOTHERS TO TAKE THE PILL ONLY AFTER OBTAINING ADVICE FROM THEIR DOCTORS. --BERNAMA MORE 1853/MD

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MAHATHIR-FAMILY 2 KUALA LUMPUR (EMBARGO)

HE SAID THAT MANY MARRIED WOMEN WITHOUT CHILDREN WERE NOW TAKING THE PILL.

THIS SHOULD NOT BE DONE BECAUSE IT MIGHT CAUSE THEM TO BECOME BARREN, HE ADDED.

DR. MAHATHIR SAID THAT FAMILY PLANNING DID NOT NECESSARILY MEAN LIMITING THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN BUT TO PLAN SO THAT MOTHERS, CHILDREN AND THE FAMILY WERE MORE HEALTHY AND HAPPY.

FAMILY PLANNING WAS PART OF THE GOVERNMENT'S EFFORTS TO BRING ABOUT BALANCE BETWEEN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND SOCIAL NEEDS OF THE PEOPLE, HE ADDED.

HE SAID THAT THERE WAS NO REASON FOR FAMILIES TO HAVE A LOT OF CHILDREN JUST BECAUSE THEY COULD AFFORD TO DO SO. --BERNAMA MORE 1905/MD

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MAHATHIR-FAMILY 3 KUALA LUMPUR (EMBARGO)

DR. MAHATHIR SAID THAT A COUPLE MUST THINK OF THEIR CHILDREN'S FUTURE AND PLAN SO THAT THEIR CHILDREN WOULD ENJOY A BETTER LIFE.

HE ALSO URGED PRIVATE AND GOVERNMENT BODIES TO WORK WITH THE NATIONAL PLANNING BOARD TO HELP IT ACHIEVE ITS AIMS. --BERNAMA 1907/MD