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ALOR STAR, NOV. 28 (BERNAMA) -- DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMED ADVISED THE PEOPLE TODAY NOT TO PRESS UNREASONABLE WAGE CLAIMS WHICH CAN BRING THE GOVERNMENT MORE PROBLEM.

THE COUNTRY WAS NOT FACING THE COMMUNIST THREAT AND MORE PROBLEMS WOULD ONLY WORSEN THE SITUATION, HE ADDED WHEN OPENING A CIVICS COURSE FOR COMMUNITY LEADERS AT THE AYER HITAM SECONDARY SCHOOL, 16 MILES NORTH OF HERE.

THE GOVERNMENT WAS SPENDING A LARGE PART OF THE NATIONAL RESOURCES ON THE FIGHT AGAINST THE COMMUNISTS SO THE PEOPLE COULD LIVE IN PEACE AND SECURITY.

IN VIEW OF THIS, ANY UNNECESSARY EXPENDITURE SHOULD NOT BE INCURRED, HE ADDED, AND ADVISED THE PEOPLE TO TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION THE COUNTRY'S FINANCIAL POSITION AND CAPABILITY WHEN MAKING SALARY CLAIMS. -- BERNAMA MORE 1603/ZCM

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MAHATHIR @ ALOR STAR

HE SAID THE GOVERNMENT WOULD CARRY OUT DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS TO PROVIDE AMENITIES LIKE ELECTRICITY AND WATER SUPPLY TO THE RURAL AREAS BUT THE PEOPLE MUST BE PATIENT IN WAITING FOR THEM.

DR. MAHATHIR ALSO SAID THE PEOPLE SHOULD BE THANKFUL WITH THE BENEFITS THEY WERE ENJOYING AND THAT A SATISFIED SOCIETY WOULD PROGRESS FURTHER THAN ONE WHICH WAS PERPETUALLY UNSATISFIED.

-- BERNAMA 1603/ZCM