

MAHATHIR-DRUGS 3 KUALA LUMPUR

23

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER SAID THE PUBLIC MUST BE MADE TO REALISE THE SERIOUSNESS OF THE DRUG PROBLEM. ONLY IN THIS WAY WOULD THEY BE ABLE TO HELP OVERCOME IT.

HE URGED PARENTS TO EXERCISE GREATER CONTROL OVER THEIR CHILDREN. TEACHERS AND GOVERNMENT OFFICERS SHOULD ALSO PLAY AN ACTIVE ROLE IN COMBATING DRUG ABUSE.

DR. MAHATHIR SAID THE GOVERNMENT WOULD CONTINUE TO PLAY A LEADING ROLE IN OVERCOMING THE PROBLEM. A TOTAL OF \$5 MILLION HAD BEEN SET ASIDE FOR THE PURPOSE UNDER THE THIRD MALAYSIA PLAN.

EARLIER, THE MINISTER OF LAW, TAN SRI ABDUL KADIR YUSOF, SAID THE ANTI-DRUG LAW WOULD BE TIGHTENED IF NECESSARY TO ENSURE THE NATION'S SECURITY. --BERNAMA MORE 1545/BY

MAHATHIR-DRUGS 4 KUALA LUMPUR

HIS MINISTRY WAS ALSO FINDING WAYS OF OVERCOMING THE PROBLEM OF WITNESSES REFUSING TO GIVE EVIDENCE IN DRUG CASES.

IN MOST CASES THE WITNESSES FEARED THAT THEY OR THEIR FAMILIES WOULD BE HARMED BY THOSE INVOLVED, HE ADDED.

HE WAS HAPPY THAT MANY PEOPLE HAD REALISED THE SERIOUSNESS OF THE DRUG PROBLEM AND HOPED THAT WITH THIS AWARENESS, THE DRUG PROBLEM COULD BE TACKLED MORE EFFICITIVELY.

PEMADAM PRESIDENT, ENCIK RAIS YATIM, SAID THERE WAS EVIDENCE TO SHOW THAT THE COMMUNISTS WERE ALSO INVOLVED IN DRUG SMUGGLING IN THE COUNTRY.

THIS HAD MADE THE DRUG PROBLEM IN MALAYSIA MORE SERIOUS THAN IN OTHER COUNTRIES.

HE SAID PEMADAM WAS PLANNING A SUITABLE STRATEGY IN THE WAR AGAINST DRUGS.

THE SIX-SWEEK EXHIBITION IS OPENED TO THE PUBLIC. -- BERNAMA