

**MAHATHIR-FACTORIES**

BM

78 P  
PADANG SANAI, FEB. 16 (BERNAMA)—THE GOVERNMENT HAS DIRECTED THAT CERTAIN NEWLY APPROVED FACTORIES SHOULD BE SET UP IN LESS DEVELOPED STATES AS A STEP TO BRING INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT TO THESE AREAS.

ACTING PRIME MINISTER DATUK SERI DR. (MAHATHIR MOHAMED) SAID TODAY THAT THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, THROUGH THE MINISTERIES OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY AND PRIMARY INDUSTRIES AND FIDA HAD BEEN MAKING EFFORTS TO BRING MORE INVESTORS TO THE COUNTRY.

"WITH MORE FOREIGN INVESTORS, IT WILL BE EASIER FOR US TO CHANNEL PROJECTS TO THE LESS DEVELOPED AREAS," HE SAID.

HE SAID THIS IN A SPEECH AT THE OPENING OF THE GULA PADANG TERAP BERNAD COMPLEX BY THE SULTAN OF KEDAH HERE. HIS SPEECH WAS READ BY PUBLIC ENTERPRISES MINISTER DATUK HAJI MOHAMED YAACOB.

DATUK SRI DR. MAHATHIR WHO IS ALSO THE TRADE AND INDUSTRY MINISTER SAID THAT THE GOVERNMENT WAS KEEPING ITS PROMISE TO BRING DEVELOPMENT TO THE LESS FORTUNATE STATES.

—BERNAMA MORE HM 1324

NO31 (F)

**MAHATHIR-FACTORIES 2 PADANG SANAI**

THE GOVERNMENT'S EFFORT TO INCREASE LOCAL FOOD PRODUCTION HAD ALSO SHOWN SATISFACTORY RESULTS.

ON THE ERADICATION OF POVERTY, DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR SAID THAT THE GOVERNMENT WOULD STRESS ON THE IMPORTANCE OF BUMIPUTRA PARTICIPATION IN DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS SUCH AS THE GULA PADANG TERAP PROJECT.

FOR THIS THE BUMIPUTRAS SHOULD BE PREPARED TO EQUIP THEMSELVES BY ATTENDING RELATED COURSES IN THE MANAGEMENT, TECHNICAL AND OTHER ASPECTS.

HE ALSO SAID THAT THE GOVERNMENT WAS ALWAYS PREPARED TO HAND OVER SHARES IN JOINT VENTURE COMPANIES WITH THE PRIVATE SECTOR TO SUITABLE AND QUALIFIED BUMIPUTRAS.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR DESCRIBED THE GULA PADANG TERAP PROJECT AS AN EFFORT BY THE GOVERNMENT TO DIVERSIFY THE COUNTRY'S ECONOMY.

—BERNAMA MORE 1347/18

NO32 (F)

**MAHATHIR - FACTORIES 3 PADANG SANAI**

AS MALAYSIA'S RICE BOWL, THE KEDAH ECONOMY WAS SOLELY DEPENDENT ON RICE AND RUBBER PRODUCTION.

THE PEOPLE ESPECIALLY FARMERS WOULD SUFFER WHEN THERE WAS DROUGHT.

INDUSTRIAL PROJECTS LIKE THE GULA PADANG TERAP WOULD HELP IMPROVE THE PRESENT SITUATION BESIDE STABILISING THE STATE ECONOMY, HE ADDED. — BERNAMA 1350/18