

SENATE—MAHATHIR

BM

78 (P)
KUALA LUMPUR, OCT. 24⁴ (BERNAMA) — DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMED SAID TODAY ERADICATION OF POVERTY DOES NOT MEAN THAT EVERY POOR PERSON WILL BE MADE A MILLIONAIRE.

ON THE OTHER HAND, NEITHER WAS THE MAKING OF MILLIONAIRES AGAINST THE OBJECTIVE OF ERADICATION OF POVERTY, HE ADDED IN THE DEWAN NEGARA HERE.

REPLYING TO SENATOR T.S. GABRIEL, THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER SAID THE NEW ECONOMIC POLICY WAS AIMED AT ERADICATING POVERTY AMONG THE PEOPLE REGARDLESS OF RACE AND RESTRUCTURING THE SOCIETY.

HE ALSO SAID PRONOUNCEMENTS THAT THE NEW ECONOMIC POLICY HAD FAILED IN ITS OBJECTIVE BECAUSE IT HAD RESULTED IN SOME BUMIPUTRAS BECOMING MILLIONAIRES WERE PROBABLY GENERATED BY FEELINGS OF ENVY AND JEALOUSY OF THE SUCCESS OF THE OTHERS.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR STRESSED THAT THE GOVERNMENT ALWAYS WELCOMED CRITICISM OF ITS POLICIES PROVIDED THE CRITICISM WAS CONSTRUCTIVE AND USEFUL. —BERNAMA MORE 1819/BY
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THE CRITICISM MADE BY THE OPPOSITION RECENTLY WAS NOT JUSTIFIED AND WAS AIMED AT CONFUSING THE PEOPLE AS TO THE REAL OBJECTIVES OF THE NEW ECONOMIC POLICY.

HE TOLD THE DEWAN NEGARA THAT POVERTY ERADICATION MEASURES INCLUDED THE OPENING OF LAND SCHEMES, PROVISION OF INFRASTRUCTURE IN THE RURAL AREAS AND PROVISION OF EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH FACILITIES.

THE GOVERNMENT'S INDUSTRIALISATION PROGRAMME CARRIED OUT IN RURAL AND URBAN AREAS HAD ALSO GENERATED MORE JOBS FOR BUMIPUTRAS. —BERNAMA 1820/BY