

79

P

KUCHING, MARCH 17 (BERNAMA) — THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT IS FORMULATING A NATIONAL ENERGY POLICY TO ENSURE THE SUFFICIENT SUPPLY OF ENERGY FOR ITS DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS, DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR DISCLOSED HERE TODAY.

HE SAID THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT WOULD ALSO DO EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO ASSIST THE VARIOUS STATE GOVERNMENT REGULATE THEIR ENERGY SOURCES.

OPENING A \$43 MILLION SARAWAK ELECTRICITY SUPPLY CORPORATION (SESCO) POWER STATION IN SUNGAI BIAWAK HERE, THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER SAID SARAWAK WAS LUCKY TO BE ENDOWED WITH GENEROUS SOURCES OF POWER SUPPLY.

HE SAID ALTHOUGH THE SARAWAK RIVER WAS NARROW, OTHER RIVERS IN THE STATE SUCH AS THE BARAM, BATANG, REJANG AND BATANG AI WERE SWIFT FLOWING AND COULD BE USED FOR GENERATING ELECTRICITY.

IN VIEW OF THIS, THE STATE HAD THE POTENTIAL OF PRODUCING SURPLUS ELECTRICITY SUPPLY WHICH COULD BE CHANELLED ACROSS THE SOUTH CHINE SEA TO PENINSULAR MALAYSIA FOR DISTRIBUTION TO THE REST OF THE COUNTRY. — BERNAMA 1345/1B

MAHATHIR 2 KUCHING (RE--OPENS ITEM NO35)

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR SAID EXPERTS FROM THE SNOWY MOUNTAINS ENGINEERING CORPORATION IN AUSTRALIA HAD UNDERTAKEN SEVERAL STUDIES ON THE CAPACITY OF THE SARAWAK RIVERS TO GENERATE ELECTRICITY.

A STUDY OF THE REJANG RIVER IN PELAGUS SHOWED THAT THE RIVER HAD THE POTENTIAL TO PRODUCE MUCH ELECTRICITY.

HE WAS CONFIDENT THAT SOON ALL TOWNS, VILLAGES AND LONG-HOUSES IN SARAWAK WOULD BE SUPPLIED WITH ELECTRICITY UPON COMPLETION OF ELECTRICITY PROJECTS IN THE STATE.

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER SAID THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT HAD INVESTED A GREAT DEAL FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE BINTULU DISTRICT. THE PROJECTS INCLUDE THE LIQUEFIED NATURAL GAS (LNG) PROJECT, THE UNIVERSITI PERTANIAN BRANCH CAMPUS AND THE TANJUNG KIDURONG PROJECT.

“THIS SHOWS THE CONFIDENCE THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT HAS IN THE STATE,” HE SAID. —BERNAMA MORE 1533/BY

MAHATHIR 3 KUCHING

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR SPOKE OF THE IMPORTANCE OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN DETERMINING THE COURSE OF A COUNTRY.

“THIS IS IMPORTANT, ESPECIALLY WHEN MANY FOREIGN INVESTORS ARE EYEING MALAYSIA,” HE SAID.

HE PRAISED THE CALM SITUATION IN THE RELATIONS BETWEEN EMPLOYERS AND EMPLOYEES IN SARAWAK AND SAID IT HAD HELPED TOWARD SMOOTH IMPLEMENTATION OF PROJECTS.

“THE GOOD RELATIONS BETWEEN EMPLOYERS AND EMPLOYEES IN SARAWAK IS A GOOD EXAMPLE TO FOLLOW,” HE SAID.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR CONGRATULATED THE SARAWAK ELECTRICITY SUPPLY CORPORATION FOR ITS ACHIEVEMENTS IN THE LAST 16 YEARS.

—BERNAMA 1536/BY

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER PRAISED THE LEADERSHIP OF CHIEF MINISTER DATUK PATINGGI TAN SRI HAJI ABDUL RAHMAN YAKUB AND SAID IT HAD BROUGHT MUCH DEVELOPMENT TO THE PEOPLE AND THE STATE.

HE NAMED THE POWER STATION AFTER DATUK PATINGGI ABDUL RAHMAN. —BERNAMA 1538/BY