

MAHATHIR

30 (P)
TANJONG MALIM, APRIL 5 (BERNAMA) — PEOPLE LIVING IN SEMI-URBAN CENTRES WHO ARE FORTUNATE TO HAVE INDUSTRIES LOCATED AMONG THEM SHOULD ADOPT A POSITIVE ATTITUDE TOWARDS THE FACTORIES, DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMAD SAID TODAY.

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER SAID THAT TOO OFTEN, PEOPLE IN REMOTE CENTRES CLAMOUR FOR INDUSTRIES TO BE LOCATED IN THEIR AREA BUT THEIR FRIENDLY ATTITUDE TOWARDS THE FACTORIES CHANGED TO COMPLAINTS VERY SOON.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR, WHO IS ALSO THE TRADE AND INDUSTRY MINISTER, SAID THE PEOPLE IN THE SEMI-URBAN CENTRES SHOULD APPRECIATE THE JOBS THAT THESE FACTORIES PROVIDED FOR THEM AND THEIR CHILDREN.

THEY SHOULD NOT MERELY LOOK FOR NEGATIVE ISSUES CONCERNING THE FACTORIES TO COMPLAINT ABOUT, HE ADDED.

HE SAID THIS BEFORE HE LAID THE FOUNDATION STONE OF THE PROPOSED BUILDING FOR THE UMNO BRANCH HERE. — BERNAMA MORE 1825/11
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ALSO PRESENT WERE DATIN SERI DR. SITI HASMAH, DEPUTY FINANCE MINISTER MAK HON KAM, WHO IS M.P. FOR THE AREA, AND THE UMNO DIVISIONAL LEADER, STATE ASSEMBLYMAN R.M. IDRIS.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR SAID HE HAD OFTEN HEARD COMPLAINTS THAT RURAL GIRLS WHO WENT TO WORK IN FACTORIES BECAME LESS RELIGIOUS AND HAD LOOSE MORALS.

THE SOLUTION IN THIS CASE, HE SAID, WAS NOT TO BLAME THE FACTORIES.

INSTEAD, THE PEOPLE SHOULD GUIDE THE YOUNG GIRLS SO THEY WOULD KEEP TO THE RIGHT PATH.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR SYMPATHISED WITH THE PLIGHT FACED BY TANJONG MALIM WHICH LOST ITS STRATEGIC POSITION ASTRIDE THE IPOH-KUALA LUMPUR TRUNK ROAD AFTER THE OPENING OF THE HIGHWAY BETWEEN THE TWO POINTS. — BERNAMA MORE 1845/1B

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THIS, HOWEVER, COULD NOT BE HELPED AS THE GOVERNMENT HAD A RESPONSIBILITY TO BUILD NEW AND BETTER ROAD FOR GREATER SAFETY.

THE SOLUTION TO THE DILEMMA SUCH AS THAT FACED BY TANJONG MALIM WHICH SAW A DROP IN BUSINESS AS A RESULT OF THE OPENING OF THE HIGHWAY WAS TO ALLOW STALLS TO BE SET UP ALONG CERTAIN PARTS OF NEW HIGHWAYS.

SUCH STALLS, HE ADDED, COULD BE ALLOTTED TO BUMIPUTRAS WHO WANTED TO START BUSINESS AS WELL AS TO THOSE WHOSE BUSINESS HAD BEEN AFFECTED BY THE OPENING OF THE HIGHWAYS. — BERNAMA 1850/1B