

NO18 (F)
MAHATHIR-DAYABUMI
BM

KUALA LUMPUR, NOV. 14⁸¹ (BERNAMA) (P) - DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD, SAID TODAY THAT TOWNS SHOULD NOT ONLY BE A MANIFESTATION OF THE COMMUNITY'S MATERIAL AND SPIRITUAL WEALTH BUT SHOULD ALSO REFLECT A SOCIETY'S HIGH MORAL CHARACTER.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THE GOVERNMENT ALSO EXPECTED THE THE ATMOSPHERE OF THE CITY, WITH ITS ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL BASES, TO HELP MOULD A SOCIETY THAT OF HIGH SPIRITUAL VALUES AND DISCIPLINE.

+TOWNS IN OUR COUNTRY SHOULD NOT ONLY BE CENTRES OF ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES WITH OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL COMMUNITIES TO SEEK SUSTENANCE, AND EXPERIENCE BUT SHOULD ALSO PROMOTE INTERACTION WHICH FORMS THE BASIS OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND FOSTER UNITY AMONG THE MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY, + HE SAID.

HE SAID THE AIM OF THE GOVERNMENT WAS TO CREATE AN ATMOSPHERE IN THE TOWNS THAT WOULD SERVE AS A CATALYST FOR PROGRESS AND FOR MOULDING THE IDENTITY OF THE PEOPLE IN THE COUNTRY IN LINE WITH THE PRINCIPLES OF THE RUKUN NEGARA.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR WAS SPEAKING AT THE LAYING OF THE FOUNDATION STONE CEREMONY OF THE PROJECT DAYABUMI, AN UDA PROJECT LOCATED IN THE COMMERCIAL DISTRICT OF THE CITY WHICH WOULD BE A LANDMARK WHEN IT IS COMPLETED IN 30 MONTHS.--BERNAMA MORE 1350/M

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THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THE GOVERNMENT WANTED TOWNS THAT COULD PROVIDE VARIOUS AMENITIES SUITABLE FOR AND IN LINE WITH THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE INDIVIDUAL IDENTITY REQUIRED.

RECREATIONAL FACILITIES, OPEN SPACES AND OTHER AMENITIES THAT COULD MEET THE NEEDS OF ALL STRATA OF SOCIETY SHOULD BE THE FEATURES OF A TOWN.

IF POSSIBLE, THE MERE MENTION OF THE WORD TOWN SHOULD INVOKE THE IMAGE OF ITS CLEANLINESS, ITS FRIENDLY AND DISCIPLINED RESIDENTS AND OTHER PLEASING FEATURES, HE SAID.

TOWNS SHOULD REFLECT NATIONAL CULTURAL ELEMENTS AND BE A PLACE OF ORDERLY LIFE THAT WOULD

GIVE MEANING TO THE GREATNESS OF MAN AS HUMAN BEINGS WHO SHOULD THINK AND POSSESS HIGH VALUES.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR FELT THAT AN ENVIRONMENT THAT WAS DISORDERLY NOT ONLY SAPPED THE PRODUCTIVITY OF THE COMMUNITY BUT ALSO CONTRIBUTED TO AN INCREASE IN THE SOCIAL

ILLS SUCH AS DRUG ABUSE AND EXCESSES THAT COULD LEAD TO MORAL DECLINE.--BERNAMA MORE 1359/HM

NO29: (F)

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HE SAID THAT THE PLANNED DEVELOPMENT OF TOWNS WAS AN IMPORTANT ASPECT IN THE PROGRAMME TO RESTURCTURE SOCIETY AND AS SUCH URBAN DEVELOPMENT SHOULD TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION OTHER ASPECTSS BESIDES THE ECONOMIC AND PHYSICAL ONES.

IN THIS RELATION, HE URGED TOWN PLANNERS, ARCHITECTS, HOUSING DEVELOPERS AND SOCIOLOGISTS AND ECONOMISTS TO JOIN PROGRESSTO DESIGN BUILDINGS AND ENVIRONMENTS BASED ON NATIONAL ASPIRATIONS.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID ALL THESE ACTIVITIES MUST BRING ABOUT COMPREHENSIVE BENEFITS TO THE COMMUNITY BY PROVIDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR DEVELOPMENT OF AND PARTICIPATION BY THE PEOPLE OF ALL COMMUNITIES IN THE ECONOMIC FIELD, ESPECIALLY THE BACKWARD GROUP IN THIS FIELD.

THE PRIME MINISTER DID NOT WANT THE TOWNS TO BE PARASITESSOF ITS SURROUNDING AREAS AS DEVELOPMENTS IN THE TOWNS WERE FELT BY ITS VICINITY AND LIKEWISE THE SURROUNDINGS AREASALSO HAD AN INFLUENCE ON THE TOWNS.

THE TOWNS NOT ONLY, THROUGH CONTINUA PROCESS, ADAPTED TO THE SURROUNDING AREAS' DEVELOPMENTS BUT ALSO MOULDED THEIR ENVIRONMENTS HE SAID. -- BERNAMA MORE 1410/13

NO30 (F)

MAHATHIR-DAYABUMI 4 KUALA LUMPUR

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR SAID THAT AS CENTRES OF ALL CULTURAL AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES, TOWNS WERE THEMSELVES AN ATTRACTION FOR RURAL-URBAN MIGRATION.

DURING THE FOURTH MALAYSIA PLAN PERIOD, THE PERCENTAGE OF THE COUNTRY'S RURAL POPULATION WAS EXPECTED TO DROP FROM 65 PER CENT TO 62 PER CENT, WHILE THAT FOR THE URBAN POPULATION WOULD INCREASE FROM 35 PER CENT TO 38 PER CENT.

HE ADMITTED THAT THE RURAL-URBAN MIGRATION WAS A BURDEN AND PRESSURE ON THE PLANNING AND ADMINISTRATION FOR VARIOUS AMENITIES FOR THE URBAN AREAS.

HOWEVER, HE SAID THE GOVERNMENT WOULD CONTINUE TO STRIVE TO OVERCOME THESE PROBLEMS BECAUSE THIS MIGRATION WAS A POSITIVE FACTOR IN EFFORTS TO RESTRUCTURE SOCIETY.

HE SAID EFFORTS HAD BEEN MADE TO DEVELOP NEW TOWNS IN THE RURAL AREAS AND DEVELOPMENT REGIONS TO BALANCE THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE URBAN AND RURAL AREAS.

HE WAS CONFIDENT THAT IN THIS WAY, THE STRESS ON THE MAJOR URBAN AREAS WOULD BE REDUCED AND ENABLE THEIR DEVELOPMENT TO GO ON IN AN ORDERLY MANNER.

— BERNAMA MORE 1435/AZ

NO34 (F)

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ON THE DAYABUMI PROJECT, THE PRIME MINISTER SAID IT WAS AN EXAMPLE TO OTHER ARCHITECTS IN THE COUNTRY THAT A MODERN BUILDING NEED NOT BE LIKE A BOX WHICH WAS MERELY FUNCTIONAL AND HAD NO AESTHETIC VALUES.

THE DESIGN OF THE PROJECT HAD BEEN CHANGED SEVERAL TIMES BECAUSE OF THE GOVERNMENT WANTED TO INCORPORATE NATIONAL CULTURAL CHARACTERISTICS INTO A MODERN TYPE OF BUILDING.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR SAID ONE OF THE SPECIAL FEATURES OF THE PROJECT WAS THAT ITS BUILDERS WOULD TRY AND COMPLETE IT IN RECORD TIME.

AT THE END OF THE CEREMONY, HE PLACED A TIME CAPSULE INTO THE FOUNDATION STONE OF THE PROJECT WHICH WAS LATER SEALED IN WITH CEMENT.

THE TIME CAPSULE CONTAINED MICRO FILM OF TODAY'S NEWSPAPERS, THE PAPERS OF THE UDA BOARD, THE DAYABUMI'S BUILDING PLANS, THE UDA ACT, PHOTOGRAPHS OF A MODEL OF THE PROJECT, THE SOUVENIR PROGRAMME AND INVITATION CARD AND CURRENCY NOTES AND COINS.

— BERNAMA 1450/AZ

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