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PENANG, NOV. 20 (BERNAMA) -- DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMAD SAID TODAY THAT THE GOVERNMENT'S DIRECTIVE TO ITS OFFICERS AND STAFF TO WORK HARDER AND SHOW MORE DEDICATION ALSO APPLIES TO THE PEOPLE.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THE GOVERNMENT WANTED THE PEOPLE TO FOLLOW SUIT SO THAT THEY COULD TOGETHER WITH THE GOVERNMENT ACCELERATE NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND PROGRESS.

THE PEOPLE SHOULD THEREFORE REGARD THE DIRECTIVE AS ALSO APPLYING TO THEM. HE ADDED AT A TEA PARTY AT THE RESIDENCE OF PENANG CHIEF MINISTER DR. LIM CHONG EU, HERE.

THE TEA PARTY IS IN HONOUR OF HIS FIRST OFFICIAL VISIT TO THE STATE AS PRIME MINISTER. ALSO PRESENT WERE DATIN SERI DR. SITI HASMAH AND OVER 2,000 GUESTS.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR SAID THAT THE PEOPLE WOULD NOT LOSE BY CULTIVATING THE HABIT OF COMING TO WORK ON TIME AND GIVING THEIR BEST TO THEIR JOB. --BERNAMA MORE 2015/AH

MAHATHIR - DIRECTIVE 2 PENANG

HE HOPED THE PEOPLE WOULD NOT HAVE THE ATTITUDE OF DEPENDING WHOLLY ON OTHERS TO DEVELOP THE NATION, ADDING THAT IF THEY PARTICIPATED IN THE EFFORTS, THE REWARDS OF PROSPERITY AND DEVELOPMENT COULD BE JUSTLY ENJOYED BY ALL.

+WE MUST ALL LEARN TO WORK HARD REGARDLESS OF THE TYPE OF JOB OR POST WE HOLD.

+THE GRASS CUTTER AS WELL AS THE SENIOR CIVIL SERVANT ARE EQUALLY OBLIGED TO GIVE THEIR BEST TO THEIR DUTY+.

HE STRESSED THAT THE GOVERNMENT'S INTENTION IN CALLING FOR A CHANGE OF ATTITUDE AMONG THE PEOPLE WAS NOT AIMED AT SAFEGUARDING OR PERPETUATING ITS POSITION AND POWER.

+IT MAKES THIS APPEAL SOLELY IN THE INTERESTS OF THE PEOPLE THEMSELVES, + HE ADDED.

EARLIER, DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR SAID HE WAS HAPPY THE VARIOUS COMMUNITIES IN MALAYSIA HAD SUCCEEDED IN ACHIEVING SOLIDARITY.

--BERNAMA MORE 2036/AH

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MAHATHIR - DIRECTIVE 3 PENANG

+I AM PROUD TO SEE THAT DESPITE BEING A MULTI-RACIAL SOCIETY, WE HAVE MANAGED TO COOPERATE WITH ONE ANOTHER IN ALL FIELDS, WHETHER IN ESTATES, FACTORIES, OFFICES OR BUSINESS.

+THIS KIND OF UNITY WILL ENABLE US TO LIVE IN A SPIRIT OF TOLERANCE WITH ONE ANOTHER.+

ON PENANG, HE PLEDGED THAT THE GOVERNMENT WOULD DO ITS BEST TO FULFIL ITS PROMISES TO THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE.

ONE OF THE PROMISES WAS THE PENANG-MAINLAND BRIDGE LINKAGE AND THIS WOULD BE ACTUALISED AT A COST OF \$700 MILLION.

HE BELIEVED THAT THE PROJECT, WHEN COMPLETED, WOULD PROPEL PENANG TO GREATER PROGRESS.

ON WORRIES THAT THE PROJECT MIGHT CAUSE A POLLUTION PROBLEM, HE SAID THE PROBLEM WOULD NOT BE AS BAD AS CLAIMED. --BERNAMA MORE 2040/AH

MAHATHIR - DIRECTIVE 4 PENANG

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HE POINTED OUT THAT THE BENEFITS TO BE GAINED FAR OUTWEIGHED THE PROBLEMS THAT MIGHT RESULT.

THE PEOPLE MUST BE PREPARED TO BEAR SOME INCONVENIENCE IF THEY WANTED PROGRESS AND DEVELOPMENT.

EARLIER, DR.LIM REITERATED THE STATE GOVERNMENT'S PLEDGE TO WORK CLOSELY WITH THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT IN EFFORTS TO REINFORCE SOLIDARITY AND BRING ABOUT GREATER PROGRESS FOR THE COUNTRY.

HE SAID THE STATE GOVERNMENT FULLY SUPPORTED THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT'S EFFORTS TO CREATE BETTER DISCIPLINE, EFFICIENCY AND DEDICATION AMONG THE PEOPLE, PARTICULARLY PUBLIC SECTOR STAFF.

DATUK SERI DR.MAHATHIR AND DATIN SERI DR.SITI HASMAH WERE TONIGHT ENTERTAINED TO A STATE BANQUET AT A HOTEL HERE.

EARLIER IN THE DAY, THE PRIME MINISTER MET STATE BARISAN NASIONAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND STATE UMNO LIAISON COMMITTEE MEMBERS.--BERNAMA 2045/AH