

NO07
MAHATHIR-COMMUNITY
BM

PETALING JAYA, DEC. 11 (BERNAMA) -- ³¹ ^(P) DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMED HAS EXPRESSED HIS DREAM OF SEEING MALAYSIA PROGRESS TO LEVEL WORTHY OF THE RESPECT OF OTHER NATIONS AND MEETING HER OWN NEEDS INDEPENDENT OF OTHERS.

THE PRIME MINISTER WAS CONFIDENT THIS ASPIRATION WOULD BECOME REALITY WITH WHOLE-HEARTED SUPPORT OF THE PEOPLE IN DISCHARGING THEIR TASKS AND RESPONSIBILITIES WITH TRUE DEDICATION AND SINCERITY.

IN THIS CONNECTION, HE URGED WORKERS TO REGARD THEIR WORK AS AN IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTION TO THE NATION RATHER THAN AS A SOURCE OF INCOME.

SPEAKING AT THE DINNER OF THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT HERE LAST NIGHT, HE HOPED WORKERS VIEWED THE MONETARY RETURNS FOR THEIR LABOUR AS SECONDARY REWARD OTHERWISE THEY WOULD BE MERE SLAVES TO MAMMON.

HE EMPHASISED ON THE IMPORTANCE OF ACTING NOW TO LAY THE FOUNDATION FOR ACHIEVING THE ASPIRATION FOR THE FUTURE BENEFIT OF THE COUNTRY. --BERNAMA MORE 1052/MD

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+WE MAY NOT BE ABLE TO BRING ABOUT THIS ACHIEVEMENT WITHIN OUR LIFETIME BUT I BELIEVE THAT IF WE MAKE THE EFFORT FROM NOW, WE WILL PROVIDE THE FOUNDATION FOR OUR FUTURE GENERATION TO BRING THE COUNTRY TO A LEVEL OF ADVANCEMENT ON PAR WITH THAT OF OTHER COUNTRIES, + HERE ADDED.

+THIS IS WHAT WE SHOULD DO+.

AT PRESENT, A LOT HAD TO BE DONE BEFORE MALAYSIA COULD BE ON AN EQUAL STANDING WITH OTHER COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD.

HE REMINDED WORKERS THAT MODERN EQUIPMENT AND LABOUR-SAVING DEVICES ALONE WERE NOT ENOUGH WITHOUT COMMITMENT BY WORKERS TO CARRY OUT THEIR DUTIES WITH DEDICATION.

+IF WE CONTINUE TO BE LAZY AND NEGLIGENT IN OUR WORK, WE WILL ALWAYS BE FORCED TO DEPEND ON OTHERS AT COST OF LOSS OF RESPECT FROM THEM.+ --BERNAMA MORE 1157/MD

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THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THE REAL CONCEPT OF INDEPENDENCE WAS NOT JUST FREEDOM FROM FOREIGN SUBJUGATION BUT ALSO FREEDOM FROM DEPENDENCE ON OTHERS FOR COMMON REQUIREMENTS AND URGED THE PEOPLE TO REALISE THIS TRUTH.

HE SPOKE OF THE EXPERIENCE OF THE COUNTRY WHEN IT WAS UNDER THE COLONIAL YOKE.

+I HAVE KNOWN THE MISERY OF BEING A COLONISED SOCIETY, PARTICULARLY IN KEDAH WHICH WAS AT DIFFERENT TIMES UNDER THREE COLONIAL POWERS - THE BRITISH, JAPANESE AND SIAMESE+.

HE SAID HE DID NOT RAISE THIS POINT TO AROUSE ANIMOSITY TOWARDS THESE COLONIAL POWERS BUT TO CORRECT THE THINKING OF THE YOUNG GENERATION WHO DID NOT KNOW THE TRUE VALUE OF NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE.

ALSO PRESENT WERE DATIN SERI DR. SITI HASMAH AND NATIONAL AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT MINISTER ENCIK SANUSI JUNID. --BERNAMA
1109/MD