

MESSAGE-MAHATHIR

SERI MENANTI, AUG 6⁸² (BERNAMA) -- PRIME MINISTER DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD TODAY URGED FARMERS IN THE COUNTRY TO RENEW THEIR WILL AND DETERMINATION TO REALISE THEIR ASPIRATIONS OF BECOMING SUCCESSFUL FARMERS.

HE MADE THE CALL IN A SPECIAL MESSAGE IN THE SOUVENIR PROGRAMME ISSUED ON THE OCCASION OF THE THREE-DAY NATIONAL FARMERS DAY CELEBRATION WHICH STARTED HERE TODAY.

THE PRIME MINISTER ALSO EXPRESSED HOPE THAT THE FARMERS WOULD TAKE THE OPPORTUNITY TO FULLY USE THE FACILITIES PROVIDED BY THE GOVERNMENT TO DEVELOP THEIR INDUSTRY AND THEMSELVES.

HE SAID THIS OBJECTIVE COULD BE ACHIEVED IF FARMERS EQUIPPED THEMSELVES WITH KNOWLEDGE OF MODERN AGRICULTURAL TECHNOLOGY BESIDES BEING EFFICIENT AND SYSTEMATIC.

THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE FARMERS TO THE NATION, HE POINTED OUT, WERE INDEED IMPORTANT AND APPARENT IN A WORLD THAT WAS FACING ECONOMIC RECESSION. -- MORE 1620/IB

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THE PRIME MINISTER ALSO SAID THAT FARMERS COULD MAKE EFFECTIVE CONTRIBUTIONS BY STEPPING UP THEIR OUTPUT THUS HELPING THE NATION FROM HAVING TO DEPEND ON IMPORTS FOR ITS ESSENTIAL COMMODITIES.

HE SAID THE GOVERNMENT WOULD CONTINUE TO TAKE SERIOUSLY THE WELFARE OF THE FARMERS BY PROVIDING ASSISTANCE AND OTHER SUPPORTING SERVICES.

THESE PROGRAMMES AND SERVICES, HE ADDED, WOULD HELP THE FARMERS CUT DOWN THEIR PRODUCTION COST AND TO INCREASE THEIR EARNINGS. -- BERNAMA 1625/IB