

NO89: (F)
MAHATHIR-CALL
BM

82 (M)
KBALIK PULAU, SEPT. 20 (BERNAMA) -- (DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMAD TOLD MALAYS TODAY NOT TO CULTIVATE THE HABIT OF ALWAYS EXPECTING HAND-OUTS FROM OTHER PEOPLE BUT TO TAKE THE INITIATIVE TO BE SELF-RELIANT.

THEY SHOULD STRIVE TO ACHIEVE SUCCESS AND COMFORT ON THEIR OWN WITHOUT EXPECTING AID FROM ANYONE, THE PRIME MINISTER ADDED AT A MEETING WITH FARMERS AND VILLAGERS OF KAMPUNG SUNGAI BURUNG HERE.

"WHERE IS OUR SELF-RESPECT IF WE ARE ALWAYS HOLDING OUT OUR HAND FOR HELP FROM OTHER PEOPLE WITHOUT MAKING THE EFFORT TO SECURE OUR OBJECTIVES ON OUR OWN?" HE ASKED.

HE STRESSED THAT PEOPLE WHO WERE COMPLETELY DEPENDENT ON HELP FROM OTHERS WOULD BECOME WEAK AND HELPLESS.

WE SHOULD TRY TO ACHIEVE OUR OBJECTIVES AND AIMS OURSELVES WITHOUT EXPECTING HELP FROM OTHER PEOPLE AND THE SUCCESS AND BENEFITS RESULTING LATER WOULD BE ALL THE SWEETER."

-- MORE 1753/LK
MAHATHIR - CALL 2 BALIK PULAU

ON THE GOVERNMENT'S SUBSIDY SCHEME, ESPECIALLY FOR FARMERS, HE SAID FARMERS SHOULD NOT REGARD THEIR SUBSIDY ALLOCATION AS A SOURCE OF WEALTH OR INCOME.

+IT IS ONLY AID FROM THE GOVERNMENT TO HELP FARMERS IMPROVE THEIR LOT UNTIL SUCH TIME WHEN THEY CAN STAND ON THEIR OWN FEET.

+THEY MUST WORK HARD TO ACHIEVE THE DESIRED AIMS WITHOUT BEING OVERLY DEPENDENT ON GOVERNMENT HELP.+

FARMERS SHOULD NOT REGARD THE SCHEME AS THE FOUNT FOR THEIR COMFORT AND WELL-BEING THAT DID NOT CALL FOR ANY WORK ON THEIR PART.

DATUK SERI DR. URGED THE PEOPLE, PARTICULARLY RESIDENTS IN THIS DISTRICT, TO DEVELOP THEIR IDLE LAND.

THE GOVERNMENT ON ITS PART WAS PREPARED TO SPEND MILLIONS OF RINGGIT IN AID TO HELP THE PEOPLE IMPROVE THEIR LAND, ESPECIALLY PADI FIELDS. -- MORE 1807/4H

MAHATHIR - CALL 3 BALIK PULAU

HE EMPHASISED THAT THESE GOVERNMENT EFFORTS WOULD NOT HAVE THE DESIRED EFFECT IF THE PEOPLE DID NOT WANT TO HELP THEMSELVES.

THE GOVERNMENT HAD DRAWN UP PROGRAMMES TO IMPROVE THE LIVING STANDARD OF THE PEOPLE, ESPECIALLY FARMERS POSSESSING PADI LAND THAT HAD BEEN LEFT IDLE.

ONE STRATEGY WAS COLLECTIVE FARMING, IN WHICH THE FIELDS WOULD BE PLACED UNDER ONE ADMINISTRATIVE BODY WHICH WOULD DEVELOP THE LAND THROUGH MODERN FARMING TECHNOLOGY.

THE FARMERS INVOLVED WOULD HOLD SHARES IN THE UNDERTAKING AND THE PROFITS WOULD BE DISTRIBUTED AMONG THEM EQUALLY.

+THE PADI CULTIVATION ACTIVITY SHOULD BE MADE A MORE VIABLE INDUSTRY FOR THE PEOPLE,+ HE SAID.

HE URGED RESIDENTS IN KAMPUNG SUNGAI BURUNG TO MAKE FULL USE OF THE NATURAL RESOURCES OF THE AREA.

THEY COULD, FOR INSTANCE, TURN THE ABUNDANT BAMBOO GROWTH IN THE AREA INTO A REVENUE-EARNER BY USING THEM FOR FURNITURE-MAKING AND OTHER PROJECTS. -- MORE 1855/AH

M108 (F)

MAHATHIR - CALL 4 BALIK PULAU

ALSO PRESENT AT THE GATHERING WERE MINISTER IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S DEPARTMENT DATUK ABDULLAH AHMAD BADAWI, ACTING CHIEF MINISTER OF PULAU PINANG DATUK ABDUL RAHMAN ABBAS, STATE EXECUTIVE COUNCILLORS AND GOVERNMENT OFFICERS.

THE MEETING IS PART OF THE PROGRAMME ARRANGED FOR THE PRIME MINISTER'S VISIT TO THE DISTRICT.

DATUK SERI DR.MAHATHIR WAS EARLIER GIVEN A BRIEFING BY BARAT DAYA DISTRICT OFFICER ENCIK FAUZI ABDUL RAHMAN, ON DEVELOPMENT IN THE DISTRICT.

THE PRIME MINISTER AND HIS PARTY WERE LATER TAKEN ON A TOUR OF A PADI REHABILITATION PROJECT AT SUNGAI BURUNG AND BRIEFED ON IT BY PROJECT OFFICER ENCIK ZAHARIA ABDULLAH.

DATUK SERI DR.MAHATHIR THEN BOARDED AN RMAF HELICOPTER FOR AN AERIAL VIEW OF THE DISTRICT. --BERNAMA 1903/AH