

MAHATHIR 'R'R'R'R

82
KUALA LUMPUR, DEC. 2 (BERNAMA) -- THE GOVERNMENT IS TRYING TO ACHIEVE A PROPERTY-OWNING DEMOCRACY WHERE PROPERTY DOES NOT NECESSARILY MEAN A HOUSE, PRIME MINISTER DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMAD SAID TONIGHT.

+IF WE INTERPRET PROPERTY OWNING TO MEAN HOUSE OWNING, THEN WE ARE GETTING INTO A LOT OF TROUBLE,+ HE SAID AT THE HOUSING DEVELOPERS ASSOCIATION (HDA) ANNUAL DINNER HERE.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR WAS CLARIFYING A REMARK MADE EARLIER BY HDA PRESIDENT SENATOR KEE YONG WEE WHO SAID THAT FORMER PRIME MINISTER TUN ABDUL RAZAK HAD DECLARED A HOUSE-OWNING DEMOCRACY POLICY IN 1974.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR SAID THAT FORMER FINANCE MINISTER TUN TAN SIEW BIN HAD INFAC T SPOKEN ABOUT A PROPERTY-OWNING DEMOCRACY. IN A PROPERTY-OWNING DEMOCRACY, PEOPLE COULD OWN LAND, JEWELLERY OR SHARE CERTIFICATES, NOT NECESSARILY HOUSES, HE ADDED.
-- MORE 2230/II

MAHATHIR 2 KUALA LUMPUR

+THAT IS WHAT WE ARE TRYING TO ACHIEVE,+ THE PRIME MINISTER SAID.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR SAID THAT IF EVERYONE OWNED A HOUSE, WHO WERE GOING TO RENT THE SURPLUS HOUSES OWNED BY SOME PEOPLE. HOW WERE HOUSE-OWNERS TO FIND TENANTS WHEN THEY WERE TRANSFERRED, HE ASKED.

HE ADDED THAT IT WAS NOT REALLY THE INTENTION IN A PROPERTY-OWNING DEMOCRACY POLICY THAT EVERYONE SHOULD OWN A HOUSE.

SENATOR KEE HAD SAID THAT TUN RAZAK'S HOUSE-OWNING DEMOCRACY POLICY WAS A WATERSHED IN THE HISTORY OF THE HOUSING INDUSTRY AND REPRESENTED A VERY BOLD AND HONOURABLE MOVE THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAD COMMITTED ITSELF TO. -- MORE 2240/II

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MAHATHIR 3 KUALA LUMPUR

HE ALSO SAID THAT THE HDA WAS COMMITTED TO THE GOVERNMENT'S HOUSING PROGRAMME.

SENATOR KEE OFFERED THE SERVICES OF HDA PERUMAHAN SDN. BHD. TO UNDERTAKE A FEW LOW-COST HOUSING PROJECTS FOR THE GOVERNMENTS AT NOMINAL PROFIT.

HE ALSO ANNOUNCED THE LAUNCHING OF A SCHOLARSHIP FUND FOR STUDIES ON THE HOUSING INDUSTRY. - BERNAMA 2355/BW