

MAHATHIR - BUSINESS

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CHANGLOON, KEDAH, DEC. 24 (BERNAMA) -- DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD SAID TODAY THAT UMNO MEMBERS SHOULD CONCENTRATE ON DEVELOPMENT EFFORTS NOW THAT THE CONSTITUTION AMENDMENTS ISSUE HAS BEEN RESOLVED.

THEY MUST REDOUBLE THEIR EFFORTS, INCLUDING IN BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY, TO HELP THE PEOPLE INCREASE THEIR INCOME, HE ADDED WHEN LAYING THE FOUNDATION STONE FOR THE BUSINESS COMPLEX OF THE KUBANG PASU UMNO DIVISION AT BUKIT KAYU HITAM NEAR HERE.

THE 1,500 UMNO YOUTH MEMBERS AND 500 WANITA UMNO MEMBERS PRESENT EARLIER PLEDGED LOYALTY TO THE LEADERSHIP OF THE PARTY AND NATION AND PROMISED TO UPHOLD THE PRINCIPLES OF THE CONSTITUTION.

DATUK SERI DATIN PADUKA DR SITI HASMAH, PERLIS MENTERI BESAR DATUK ALI HAJI AHMAD AND KEDAH MENTERI BESAR REPRESENTATIVE DATUK ABDULLAH ISMAIL WERE AMONG THE 20,000 PEOPLE WHO WITNESSED THE READING OF THE PLEDGE.

THE PRIME MINISTER REFERRED TO THE PLEDGE AND SAID THAT UMNO YOUTH AND WANITA UMNO MEMBERS MUST STRIVE HARD TO ENSURE THAT THE COUNTRY'S INDEPENDENCE BROUGHT BENEFITS TO ALL.

- MORE 1955/MB

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DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID THAT BUSINESS WAS AN IMPORTANT SOURCE OF WEALTH. THAT WAS WHY THE GOVERNMENT AND PARTY WERE PLANNING THE \$1.4 MILLION COMPLEX.

HE SAID THE COMPLEX, WITH ITS STALLS, WOULD GIVE GREATER OPPORTUNITIES FOR MALAYS TO DO BUSINESS.

HE WAS CONFIDENT THAT THE MALAYS WITH STALLS AT THE COMPLEX WOULD GAIN BUSINESS EXPERIENCE THAT WOULD PREPARE THEM FOR BIGGER VENTURES.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR REMINDED THE MALAYS THAT GOOD MANAGEMENT AND DETERMINATION IN OVERCOMING DIFFICULTIES WERE NECESSARY FOR SUCCESS IN BUSINESS.

HE URGED THE OTHER RACES, ESPECIALLY THE CHINESE, TO HELP GUIDE BUMIPUTERA BUSINESSMEN, SAYING THAT THEY WOULD ALSO BENEFIT FROM THE SUCCESS OF THE BUMIPUTERAS. --MORE 2051/MD  
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ZCZC N109 (F/S)

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HE ALLUDED TO THE ECONOMIC RECESSION, AND SAID THE GOVERNMENT WAS ALLOCATING WHAT IT COULD TO ENSURE BENEFITS FOR ALL.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR ALSO URGED UMNO MEMBERS TO RETAIN THE SPIRIT OF STRUGGLE WHICH LED TO THE FORMATION OF UMNO.

+WE ARE PROUD THAT THE UMNO SPIRIT PREVAILS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY AND HAS BECOME STRONGER BECAUSE OF THE CHALLENGE THAT THE PARTY HAD TO FACE RECENTLY,+ HE SAID.

THE CHALLENGE COULD HAVE MEANT THE DESTRUCTION OF UMNO IF IT HAD NOT BEEN OVERCOME, HE SAID.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THE GOVERNMENT HAD SUCCESSFULLY RESOLVED THE CONSTITUTION AMENDMENTS ISSUE ALTHOUGH CERTAIN QUARTERS ALLEGED THAT IT HAD COMPROMISED TOO MUCH.

--BERNAMA 2100/MD  
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+IT IS CHARACTERISTIC THAT WE SHOULD CHOOSE A MIDDLE PATH IN RESOLVING AN ISSUE SO THAT NO SIDE IS DISAPPOINTED,+ HE SAID.

HE SAID THAT UMNO MEMBERS THEMSELVES REALISE THAT THEIRS IS A VERY EFFECTIVE PARTY.

THE THREE-STOREY COMPLEX, WHICH WILL HAVE 106 STALLS, IS BEING BUILT WITH CONTRIBUTIONS FROM MEMBERS AND OTHER INDIVIDUALS AND PRIVATE COMPANIES. --BERNAMA 2103/MD