

MAHATHIR- LAND  
BM

84  
KUALA LUMPUR, JAN. 7 (BERNAMA) -- THE GOVERNMENT WILL GIVE SERIOUS ATTENTION TO THE DEVELOPMENT AND PROVISION OF VARIOUS FACILITIES IN MALAY RESERVE LAND IN URBAN AREAS, DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMAD SAID TODAY.

OPENING THE COMMUNITY HALL IN JALAN HAMZAH IN KAMPUNG BARU HERE, THE PRIME MINISTER SAID NEGLECT OF THESE AREAS WOULD MAKE THEIR RESIDENTS DISSATISFIED, ESPECIALLY WHEN THEY COULD SEE THE DEVELOPMENT IN OTHER AREAS AROUND THEM.

HOWEVER, BECAUSE OF ALLOCATION PROBLEMS, PROGRAMMES TO DEVELOP MALAY RESERVE LAND IN URBAN AREAS HAD TO BE IMPLEMENTED IN STAGES.

HE SAID SETTLEMENTS WERE DEVELOPED ON MALAY RESERVE LAND BECAUSE MANY MALAYS IN THE PAST COULD NOT AFFORD TO LIVE IN TOWNS SUCH AS KUALA LUMPUR BECAUSE OF THE HIGH COST OF LAND.

THE NEW ECONOMIC POLICY HAD CHANGED THE SITUATION AND NOW MALAYS WHO LIVED IN TOWNS WERE NO LONGER DEPENDENT ON MALAY RESERVE LAND AS THEY HAD THE MONEY TO BUY LAND FROM OTHERS.

NEVERTHELESS, THERE WERE STILL MALAYS WHO HAD TO LIVE IN MALAY RESERVE LAND AREAS AND IT WAS THE DUTY OF THE GOVERNMENT TO HELP THIS GROUP.

+AS SUCH, FOCUS WOULD BE GIVEN TO SUCH AREAS, + HE ADDED.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR ALSO ANNOUNCED AN ALLOCATION OF 43 MILLION FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF KAMPUNG BARU, FOLLOWING APPEALS BY THE RESIDENTS.

HE HOPED THE RESIDENTS COULD ADAPT THEMSELVES TO THE RAPIDLY-CHANGING SITUATION AND EQUIP THEMSELVES WITH THE SKILLS NECESSARY FOR EARNING AN URBAN LIVELIHOOD. -- BERNAMA 2138/SA