

MAHATHIR-LAND
BM

84 ②
JITRA, MAY 13 (BERNAMA) -- DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD TODAY URGED PEOPLE IN THE RURAL AREAS TO BE RECEPTIVE TO ADVICE AND GUIDANCE ON MODERN AGRICULTURAL METHODS.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THAT FERTILE LAND IN KAMPUNGS WAS LEFT IDLE BECAUSE THE PEOPLE DID NOT KNOW HOW TO OPTIMISE LAND-USE BY PLANTING CASH CROPS THAT COULD INCREASE THEIR INCOME.

PEOPLE IN THE RURAL AREAS COMPLAINED THAT THEY LIVED IN POVERTY WHEN IN FACT THEY OWNED FERTILE LAND THAT COULD BE A SOURCE OF WEALTH, HE ADDED WHEN OPENING A WORKSHOP JOINTLY ORGANISED BY THE AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT AND THE PENINSULAR MALAYSIA AGRICULTURAL TECHNICIANS ASSOCIATION HERE.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THAT PEOPLE IN THE RURAL AREAS WERE NOT POOR WHEN ONE CONSIDERED THE LAND THEY OWNED THAT THEY COULD CULTIVATE AND HENCE REAP WHAT THEY SOW.

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MAHATHIR - LAND 2 JITRA

HE SAID THE PEOPLE SHOULD CHANGE THEIR ATTITUDE AND CULTIVATE LAND WHICH THEY HAD LEFT IDLE BECAUSE IT WAS A VALUABLE ASSET. - - -

+ACCEPT THE ADVICE AND GUIDANCE OF THE AGRICULTURAL TECHNICIANS BECAUSE THOUGH THEY ARE YOUNG, THEY HAVE BEEN TRAINED AND POSSESS THE KNOW-HOW, + HE SAID.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THAT THE GOVERNMENT WOULD HELP TO DEVELOP THE AGRICULTURAL SECTOR BUT THE PEOPLE THEMSELVES SHOULD WORK HARD AND NOT DEPEND ENTIRELY ON GOVERNMENT AID.

HE BELIEVED THAT GOVERNMENT MOVES IN INTRODUCING COLLECTIVE FARMING AND DEVELOPING GROWTH CENTRES IN THE RURAL AREAS WOULD IMPROVE THE STANDARD OF LIVING OF THE PEOPLE.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THE PEOPLE IN THE RURAL AREAS SHOULD WORK HARD TO IMPROVE THEIR ECONOMIC POSITION, BUT MUST NOT BE OBSESSED WITH WEALTH. -- BERNAMA 2135/MB