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MAHATHIR-PALM OIL 184 (P)
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KUALA LANGAT, NOV. 17 (BERNAMA) - - PRIME MINISTER DATUKSERI DR.
MAHATHIR MOHAMAD BEEN

ABOUT PALM OIL TO UNDERMINE-THE
EXPORT OF THE COMMODITY, PARTICULARLY TO MUSLIM NATIONS.

THERE HAD BEEN REPORTS CLAIMING THAT PALM OIL COULD NOT BE
CONSUMED AND THAT IT WAS NOT AS GOOD AS OTHER OILS.

+COUNTRIES SUCH AS IRAN, FOR INSTANCE? DO NOT USE PALM OIL
BECAUSE DURING THE REIGN OF SHAH REZA PAHLEVI REPORTS HAD BEEN MADE
TO THE IRANIAN GOVERNMENT THAT PALM OIL CANNOT BE CONSUMED.+

THE PRIME MINISTER WAS SPEAKING TO REPORTERS AFTER OPENING THE
HENKEL OLEOCHEMICAL FACTORY IN TELOK PANGLIMA GARANG HERE.

HE, HOWEVER, DECLINED TO REVEAL THE SOURCE OF THE FALSE REPORTS.

+THERE IS NO NEED FOR ME TO REVEAL THE SOURCE, IT IS UP TO YOU
ALL TO FIN@ OUT,+ HE ADDED.

DATUKSERI DR MAHATHIR SAID THE SITUATION HAD NOT CHANGED AND
THE COUNTRY HAD YET TO OVERCOME THE PROBLEM.

EARLIER, IN OPENING THE FACTORY! DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID THE
GOVERNMENT WOULD CONTINUE TO DRAW UP STRATEGIES TO OVERCOME OBSTACLES
FACED IN EXPANDING THE MARKET FOR OIL PALM.

APART FROM REVIEWING THE TAX STRUCTURE ON PALM OIL, TECHNICAL
TEAMS WOULD BE SENT OVERSEAS TO PROVIDE THE CORRECT PICTURE ABOUT
THE COMMODITY, HE SAID.

HE SAID THE GOVERNMENT WOULD CONTINUE TO ENCOURAGE OIL PALM
CULTIVATION THROUGH ESTATE DEVELOPMENT AND USING MODERN TECHNOLOGY,
WITH EMPHASIS ON RAISING PRODUCTIVITY AND REDUCING PRODUCTION COSTS.

REFERRING TO MODERN TECHNOLOGY, THE PRIME MINISTER SAID
DEVELOPED COUNTRIES NEVER TIRED IN THEIR EFFORTS TO ACQUIRE BETTER
AND MORE SOPHISTICATED TECHNOLOGY,
+WE IN MALAYSIA MUST REALISE THAT WE NEED MODERN TECHNOLOGY FROM
SUCH COUNTRIES. WE MUST GO OUT AND LOOK FOR SUCH TECHNOLOGY AND
SHOULD NOT WAIT FOR IT TO BE PLACED ON OUR LAP.

+WE WHO ARE THIRSTING FOR TECHNOLOGY MUST GO ALL OUT TO ACQUIRE
IT.+

HE SAID THAT EMPLOYEES OF JOINT VENTURES WHERE TRANSFER OF
TECHNOLOGY WAS INVOLVED SHOULD ADOPT AN AGGRESSIVE ATTITUDE AND BE
EVER READY TO LEARN.

SUCH AN ATTITUDE WOULD HELP OVERCOME THE PROBLEM FACED IN
ACQUIRING NEW TECHNOLOGY AS A RESULT OF CERTAIN QUARTERS BEING
RELUCTANT TO PART WITH THEIR TECHNOLOGICAL KNOW-HOW, HE SAID.

THE \$26 MILLION HENKEL FACTORY, APART FROM CONDUCTING RESEARCH,
ALSO OFFERS INTERNATIONAL MARKETING EXPERTISE AND TECHNOLOGY.

IT SUPPLIES OLEOCHEMICALS FOR USE IN THE MANUFACTURE OF SOAP,
COSMETICS, MEDICINE AND SYNTHETIC RUBBER. -- PERNAMA

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