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0228

U E981 AAE
MAHATHIR-MARDI
BM

SERDANG, DEC. 1 (BERNAMA) -- PRIME MINISTER DATUK SERI DR

MAHATHIR MOHAMAD TODAY DISMISSED AS UNTRUE BUMIPUTRA ENTREPRENEURS'
CLAIMS OF A LIMITED COMMERCIAL SECTOR AND ADVISED THEM TO
PARTICIPATE IN NEW SPHERES OF COMMERCE THAT BROUGHT BETTER RETURNS
INSTEAD OF STRUGGLING IN THE MORE POPULAR BUT SATURATED AREAS.

+PISANGEMAS+ CA TYPE OF BANANA), MANGO AND GINGER COULD BE
CULTIVATED ON A LARGE SCALE IN VIEW OF THE GOOD MARKET FOR THEM, + HE
TOLD REPORTERS AFTER A VISIT TO THE MALAYSIAN AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH
AND DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE (MARDI) HERE.'

THEY COULD CARRY OUT THESE VENTURES WITH OTHER ENTREPRENEURS IF
THEY WERE UNABLE TO DO IT ON THEIR OWN, HE SAID.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID HE WAS CONVINCED THAT THOSE WHO
PARTICIPATED IN THESE SPHERES OF COMMERCE WOULD BE ABLE TO REAP
REASONABLE PROFITS IN VIEW OF THE AVAILABILITY OF EXPERTISE AND THE
WIDE MARKET IN THE COUNTRY.

HE DISAGREED WITH ALLEGATIONS BY BUMIPUTRA ENTREPRENEURS THAT
THEY ARE UNABLE TO CARRY OUT BUSINESS BECAUSE OF THE LIMITED NATURE
OF THE COMMERCIAL SECTOR IN THE COUNTRY. --MORE

1756MST 01 12 8 4

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MAHATHIR-MARDI 2 SERDANG

HE SAID MANY ENTREPRENEURS ONLY PARTICIPATED IN THE MORE POPULAR
ACTIVITIES SUCH AS SAUCE-MANUFACTURING WHICH HE SAID WAS FACING
MARKETING PROBLEMS.

THEY HAD ALSO FAILED TO GIVE ATTENTION TO THE POTENTIAL THAT
COULD BE EXPLOITED FROM FINDINGS OF RESEARCH,

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THAT WHILE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT
PROGRAMMES WERE IMPORTANT FOR THE COMMERCIAL SECTOR, OF GREATER
IMPORTANCE AND BENEFIT WAS UTILIZATION OF THE RESULTS.

ON PROCESSED FOOD, HE BELIEVED SUCH FOOD COULD BECOME POPULAR IN
THE COUNTRY IF THERE WAS PROPER ENCOURAGEMENT.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR'S WIFE, DATUK SERI DATIN PADUKA DR SITI
HASMAL ALI, AND AGRICULTURE MINISTER ENCIK ANWAR IBRAHIM ACCOMPANIED
HIM ON THE VISIT. -- BERNAMA

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