

MAHATHIR-DEVELOPMENT
DM

KUALA SELANGOR, DEC. 4 (BERNAMA) -- (P) DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD HAS URGED PEOPLE IN THE VILLAGES TO ACCEPT GOVERNMENT DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS THROUGH THE VILLAGE REHABILITATION PROGRAMME.

ADVISING THEM TO CHANGE THEIR TRADITIONAL WAY OF LIFE BY ACCEPTING MODERN METHODS OF DEVELOPMENT, THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THE GOVERNMENT'S PURPOSE IN INTRODUCING DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES WAS SOLELY TO IMPROVE THEIR STANDARD OF LIVING.

+IF THE PEOPLE IN THE KAMPUNGS ARE NOT WILLING TO DO THIS- THEY WILL CONTINUE TO REMAIN POOR. THEN, THERE WILL COME A TIME WHEN THEY WILL BE ENVIDIOUS OF THOSE WHO HAVE ALREADY BECOME RICH,+ SAID DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR WHEN ADDRESSING RESIDENTS OF KAMPUNG PARIT MAHANG HERE.

ALL VILLAGERS SHOULD WORK HARDER AND BE PREPARED TO ACCEPT GOVERNMENT DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES IF THEY WANTED TO PROSPER, HE ADDED.

HE ALSO TOLD THEM NOT TO BE COERCED BY CERTAIN QUARTERS WHO WERE WILLING TO GO TO ANY EXTENT TO SABOTAGE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF GOVERNMENT PROGRAMMES.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID VILLAGERS MUST REALIZE THAT THESE ELEMENTS WERE ONLY USING THEM FOR THEIR OWN SELFISH INTERESTS.

ON THE INCOME OF VILLAGERS, HE PROPOSED THAT SMALLHOLDINGS BE INTEGRATED INTO ESTATES IN WHICH THEY COULD BECOME SHAREHOLDERS AND AT THE SAME TIME PROVIDE THE WORKFORCE.

HE SPOKE OF HOW BIG ESTATES HAD SUCCEEDED IN NETTING BIGGER PROFITS BY INCREASING PRODUCTION.

+BY INTEGRATING THEIR SMALLHOLDINGS INTO BIG ESTATES, THEY CAN RECEIVE DOUBLE INCOME --- PAY FOR WORKING IN THE ESTATES AND DIVIDENDS FOR BEING SHAREHOLDERS,+ HE SAID.

EARLIER, DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR WAS BRIEFED ON KAMPUNG PARIT MAHANG'S VILLAGE REHABILITATION PROJECT BY THE GENERAL MANAGER OF THE SELANGOR AGRICULTURE DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION, ENCIK ISHAK HASHIM.

UNDER THE PROJECT, THE GOVERNMENT WILL SET UP A SCHOOL, SURAU, COMMUNITY HALL, PADANG AND SHOPS AND 95 UNITS OF HOUSES.

IF NECESSARY, THE GOVERNMENT WILL CONSIDER THE SETTING UP OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES FOR RESIDENTS IN THE AREA. --BERNAMA

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