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PULAU PINANG, AUG 2 (BERNAMA) -- THE GOVERNMENT HAS TO BEAR LOSSES IN PROVIDING LOW-COST HOUSES TO THE PEOPLE, DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD SAID TODAY.

THE GOVERNMENT WAS NOT MAKING ANY PROFIT FROM THESE PROJECTS SO AS TO ENABLE MORE PEOPLE TO OWN HOUSES, HE SAID.

THE GOVERNMENT WAS WILLING TO DO THIS SO THAT THE PEOPLE COULD LIVE IN THE COMFORT OF THEIR OWN HOMES, THE PRIME MINISTER ADDED WHEN OPENING A PUBLIC LOW-COST HOUSING SCHEME IN JALAN BATU LANCANG HERE.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR ADVISED RESIDENTS OF LOW-COST HOUSING SCHEMES TO KEEP THEIR SURROUNDINGS CLEAN AND TO ENSURE FACILITIES WERE MAINTAINED IN PROPER CONDITION.

HE ALSO HOPED THEY WOULD BE GOOD NEIGHBOURS TO ONE ANOTHER, SAYING THAT THIS WOULD LEAD TO GREATER RACIAL UNDERSTANDING. -- MORE
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HE URGED THEM TO HOLD REGULAR MEETINGS AMONG THEMSELVES TO THRASH OUT ANY PROBLEM THAT MIGHT ARISE.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR ALSO HANDED THE KEYS TO SUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS FOR HOUSES AT THE SCHEME AND VISITED TWO OF THE HOUSES.

CHIEF MINISTER DR LIM CHONG EU, DEPUTY HOUSING AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT MINISTER DATUK S.SUBRAMANIAM AND STATE EXECUTIVE COUNCILLORS WERE PRESENT.

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