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KANGAR, MARCH 14 (BERNAMA) -- DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD EXPRESSED THE HOPE TODAY THAT PEOPLE WHO CONSTANTLY DISPARAGE GOVERNMENT EFFORTS TO BRING DEVELOPMENT TO THE PEOPLE WILL ULTIMATELY REALISE THEIR ERROR.

+GIVE CREDIT WHERE CREDIT IS DUE AND PROVIDE CONSTRUCTIVE SUGGESTIONS SO THAT TOGETHER WE CAN RECTIFY WHATEVER SHORTCOMINGS THERE ARE,+ HE SAID DURING A VISIT TO TITI TINGGI, 34 KM FROM HERE.

THE PRIME MINISTER AND DATUK SERI DATIN PADUKA DR SITI HASMAH ARE ON A ONE-DAY VISIT TO PERLIS TO MEET THE PEOPLE AND SURVEY DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR ALSO ADVISED THE GOVERNMENT'S CRITICS TO PRACTISE MODERATION AND NOT BRAND EVERY GOVERNMENT EFFORT AS BAD.

HE SAID THE BARISAN NASIONAL GOVERNMENT HAD ALWAYS GIVEN PRIORITY TO THE WELFARE OF THE PEOPLE. -- MORE  
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+THE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES THAT WE PLAN ARE FOR THE PEOPLE'S BENEFIT AND NOT FOR CERTAIN SECTIONS OF THE POPULATION ONLY,+ HE SAID.

DESPITE THIS FACT, THERE WERE STILL PEOPLE WHO CONTINUED TO RUN DOWN THE GOVERNMENT.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID THESE PEOPLE, WHO ATTEMPTED TO DIVIDE THE RAKYAT AND CALLED OTHER MUSLIMS +KAFIR,+ WERE GOING AGAINST ISLAMIC TEACHINGS.

THE BN GOVERNMENT ON THE OTHER HAND, THROUGH ITS CLEAN, EFFICIENT AND TRUSTWORTHY CONCEPT AND EFFORTS TO FORGER GREATER UNITY AMONG THE PEOPLE, WAS FOLLOWING THE TRUE ISLAMIC PATH, HE SAID.

HE PRAYED THESE GROUPS WOULD REALIZE THE HARM THEY WERE DOING AND RECOGNIZE THE SINCERITY OF THE GOVERNMENT IN PROVIDING FOR THE PEOPLE. -- MORE  
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DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR URGED THE SETTLERS OF THE TITI TINGGI LAND SCHEME TO ACCEPT DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES INTRODUCED BY THE STATE GOVERNMENT AND NOT BE INFLUENCED BY THE PROPAGANDA OF CERTAIN GROUPS WISHING TO SEE THE SCHEME FAIL.

HE ASKED THEM TO ACCEPT CHANGE FOR THE BETTER, SAYING HE HOPED TO SEE AN IMPROVEMENT IN THEIR STANDARD OF LIVING AND INCOME.

HE ALSO SAID THAT PROPERLY PLANNED PROGRAMMES WOULD FACILITATE GOVERNMENT PROVISION OF BASIC AMENITIES SUCH AS ROADS, WATER AND ELECTRICITY SUPPLY.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR ADVISED THE SETTLERS TO PLANT MORE FRUIT TREES, ESPECIALLY MANGOSTEENS, AS THE FRUIT HAD A GOOD MARKET IN JAPAN.

EARLIER, THE PRIME MINISTER AND HIS WIFE WERE GREETED ON ARRIVAL AT THE SULTAN ABDUL HALIM AIRPORT IN ALOR SETAR BY PERLIS MENTERI BESAR DATUK HAJI ALI AHMAD AND STATE DIGNITARIES. -- MORE  
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THEY WERE GIVEN A GRAND WELCOME AT THE KEDAH-PERLIS BORDER AND ESCORTED BY 150 MOTORCYCLISTS IN A MOTORCADE TO THE RUMAH TETAMU HERE.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR AND DATUK SERI DATIN PADUKA DR SITI HASMAH WERE GRANTED AN AUDIENCE BY THE RAJA AND RAJA PEREMPUAN OF PERLIS AT ISTANA REPOH BEFORE PROCEEDING TO TITI TINGGI. -- BERNAMA  
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