

Semua berpeluang

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nikmati elektrik

KUALA LUMPUR, Ahad — Pembinaan Projek Hidro-elektrik Bakun di Sarawak akan dapat membantu membekalkan sumber tenaga elektrik yang murah kepada golongan miskin di negeri itu, kata Perdana Menteri, Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, hari ini.

"Projek itu ditekankan kepada golongan miskin kerana mereka tidak mampu untuk mendapatkan tenaga elektrik daripada sumber-sumber tertentu yang mungkin terlalu tinggi kosnya.

"Golongan kaya tidak menghadapi masalah mendapatkan elektrik daripada mana-mana sumber kerana mereka berkemampuan," katanya kepada pemberita selepas meraikan 30 anak angkat anjuran Yayasan Gerak Bakti Pemuda Umno, di kediamannya, hari ini.

Projek yang dijangka menelan belanja \$8,000 juta itu, adalah yang terbesar di Asia. Keputusan membina projek hidro itu diumumkan oleh Timbalan Perdana Menteri, Datuk Musa Hitam, ketika beliau merasmikan Wisma Sesco iaitu Ibu pejabat Perbadanan Bekalan Elektrik Sarawak, yang berharga \$33.5 juta, di Petra Jaya, Kucing, semalam.

Perdana Menteri berkata: "Sekiranya kita mahu kan elektrik yang murah untuk rakyat, maka perlulah kita memaju atau mengadakan sumber yang boleh membekalkan tenaga yang murah," jelasnya.

Ketika ditanya adakah beliau akan melawat Sabah, Perdana Menteri berkata, beliau pasti akan melawat negeri itu tidak lama lagi.

"Sabah juga adalah sebahagian daripada Malaysia dan buat masa ini saya tidak dapat ke sana kerana terlalu sibuk," tambahna.

Dr M: Bakun dam to benefit poor

By VONG NYAM MING

THE Malaysian government supports the building of the Bakun hydro project in Sarawak because it will benefit the poor, Prime Minister Datuk Seri ~~Dr Mahathir Mohamad~~ said.

"The Bakun dam is for the poor. The rich don't mind if energy prices are high as they can afford it. But poor people can't.

"If you want cheap electricity for the people then you must develop a cheap source of power," he told reporters after hosting a tea-party for 30 children in Sri Perdana, the Prime Minister's official residence.

The children from 54 under-developed kampungs have been adopted for the holidays by Umno Youth under a programme called Rancangan Tunas Harapan.

He was apparently referring to public concern over the project which will cause the flooding of an area the size of Singapore.

Dr Mahathir said that all the three reports that had been prepared on the dam will "eventually be released."

The proposed \$10 billion project, the largest of its kind in Asia, has been the target of conservationists who are calling for the release of environmental impact assessments, and economic feasibility studies.

The support of the federal government for the Bakun project was announced by Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Musa Hitam on Saturday during the opening of the Sarawak Electricity Supply Corp.'s \$33.5 million