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MAHATHIR-TEACHERS
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JITRA, AUG 2 (BERNAMA) -- PRIME MINISTER DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD SAID TODAY THE FUTURE OF THE NATION DEPENDS A GREAT DEAL ON TEACHERS IN MOULDING THEIR STUDENTS AND INCULCATING GOOD VALUES AMONG THEM.

HE SAID THAT TEACHERS SHOULD NOT BRING POLITICAL IDEOLOGY INTO THE CLASSROOMS, OTHERWISE IT MIGHT CREATE STUDENTS WHO WERE BENT ON CAUSING DISHARMONY IN THE COUNTRY WHEN THEY GREW UP.

FOR EXAMPLE, HE SAID, THERE HAD BEEN INSTANCES WHEN MALAYSIAN STUDENTS OVERSEAS HAD REFUSED TO MEET HIM AND OTHER MINISTERS AND HAD GIVEN THEM A POOR WELCOME WHEN THEY WENT THERE TO MEET THE STUDENTS.

OPENING THE SEKOLAH MENENGAH BATU 20, MEGAT DEWA, NEAR HERE, HE SAID THESE STUDENTS HAD BEEN INFLUENCED BY CERTAIN QUARTERS WHO ACCUSED THE MALAYSIAN MINISTERS OF BEING BAD.

+IT IS VERY SAD THAT THE STUDENTS OVERSEAS ARE EASILY INFLUENCED AND ARE PREPARED TO BITE THE VERY HAND THAT HAS HELPED THEM IN THEIR QUEST FOR KNOWLEDGE FROM THE PRIMARY TO DOCTORATE LEVEL,+ HE SAID.

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1535MST 02 08 86

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DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR HOPED THAT THE TEACHERS WOULD PLAY THEIR ROLE WITH SINCERITY AND NOT MIX THEIR LESSONS WITH POLITICAL IDEOLOGY WHICH COULD DIM THE FUTURE OF THE STUDENTS.

HE SAID PARENTS SHOULD ALWAYS KEEP AN EYE ON THEIR CHILDREN'S SCHOOLING TO ENSURE THAT THE OBJECTIVES OF SENDING THEIR CHILDREN TO SCHOOL TO BUILD UP THEIR PERSONALITIES AND TO ASSIMILATE NOBLE VALUES WERE ACHIEVED.

A NATION WHOSE CITIZENS HAD NOBLE VALUES, MORAL AND KNOWLEDGE WOULD BE STRONG AND WEALTHY AND RESPECTED BY THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY, HE ADDED.

ACHIEVEMENT OF THIS OBJECTIVE WOULD PROVE THAT THE COUNTRY'S EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM WAS SUCCESSFUL AND THE BEST BUT IF THE STUDENTS HAD KNOWLEDGE BUT POOR PERSONALITIES, THEN THE SYSTEM HAD FAILED, HE SAID.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR, WHO WAS ACCOMPANIED BY HIS WIFE, DATUK SERI DATIN PADUKA DR SITI HASMAH ALI, AND KEDAH MENTERI BESAR DATUK PADUKA HAJI OSMAN AROFF, LATER VISITED THE BN ELECTION CENTRES IN KUBANG PASU.

THE PRIME MINISTER, WHO IS CHALLENGED BY PAS' DR AZIZAN ISMAIL FOR THE KUBANG PASU PARLIAMENTARY SEAT, WILL CAST HIS VOTE AT SEKOLAH RENDAH KEBANGSAAN TITI GAJAH AT 9.30 AM TOMORROW. -- MORE
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STATE EDUCATION DIRECTOR HASHIM MYDIN SAID THE DEPARTMENT PLANNED TO BUILD 2,108 CLASSROOMS IN THE STATE UNDER THE FIFTH MALAYSIA PLAN.

THE EDUCATION MINISTRY HAD APPROVED \$20.1 MILLION UNDER A WORLD BANK LOAN FOR THIS.

HE SAID THE DEPARTMENT HAD ALSO BEEN ALLOCATED \$33.5 MILLION FOR OTHER PROJECTS UNDER THE PLAN.

A TOTAL OF \$860,000 HAD BEEN ALLOCATED FOR ELECTRICITY SUPPLY TO ALL SCHOOLS WHICH DID NOT HAVE THE FACILITY. THEY WERE EXPECTED TO HAVE ELECTRICITY SUPPLY BY THE END OF THE YEAR.

ENCIK HASHIM ALSO SAID THAT \$3.8 MILLION HAD BEEN ALLOCATED FOR REPLACEMENT OF EQUIPMENT AND FURNITURE AND MAINTENANCE OF SCHOOL BUILDINGS AND COMPOUNDS THIS YEAR.

THE \$2 MILLION SEKOLAH MENENGAH BATU 20, WHICH WAS COMPLETED IN 1982, HAS MORE THAN 700 STUDENTS FROM FORMS ONE TO FIVE. -- BERNAMA
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