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KUALA LUMPUR, NOV 30 (BERNAMA) -- DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD SAID TODAY THE PRIMARY OBJECTIVE OF MALAYSIA'S ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT POLICY IS TO RAISE THE LIVING STANDARDS OF THE PEOPLE.

THIS OBJECTIVE COULD BE ACHIEVED THROUGH STRATEGIES WHICH WOULD STEP UP RAPID ECONOMIC GROWTH AND INCREASE EXPORTS PARTICULARLY MANUFACTURED GOODS, THE PREMIER SAID WHEN REPLYING TO SENATOR HASSAN NAM IN THE SENAN MESARA DURING QUESTION TIME.

MALAYSIA'S DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES WERE CLEARLY STATED IN THE LONG TERM PERSPECTIVE PLAN OUTLINE 1970-90, FIVE YEAR DEVELOPMENT PLANS AND OTHER PROGRAMMES SUCH AS THE INDUSTRIAL MASTER PLAN AND THE NATIONAL AGRICULTURE POLICY

EXPORTS COULD BE INCREASED AND ECONOMIC GROWTH STEPPED UP IF ALL SECTORS INCREASED PRODUCTIVITY AND ENHANCED THE LEVEL OF TECHNOLOGY AND SKILLS AND THE QUALITY OF THE WORKFORCE, THE PRIME MINISTER SAID.

IN DRAWING UP STRATEGIES TOWARDS ENSURING ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT, THE GOVERNMENT ALWAYS LOOKED TO THE EXPERIENCE GAINED THROUGH BY NEWLY INDUSTRIALISED COUNTRIES. -- MORE

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+THE GOVERNMENT HOWEVER DOES NOT PROPOSE TO COPY AND IMPLEMENT THE ECONOMIC AND INDUSTRIALISATION PROGRAMMES WHICH HAD PROVED TO BE SUCCESSFUL IN THE NEWLY INDUSTRIALISED COUNTRIES.+

+THIS WAS BECAUSE THE NATURAL RESOURCES AS WELL AS THE HUMANPOWER RESOURCES AND THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIO-POLITICAL STRUCTURES WERE DIFFERENT IN MALAYSIA WHEN COMPARED TO THOSE COUNTRIES.+

TO A QUESTION FROM SENATOR MAZIDAN ZAKARIA, THE PREMIER SAID TO ACHIEVE THE VARIOUS OBJECTIVES, EVERYONE SHOULD ENSURE THAT POLITICAL STABILITY WAS MAINTAINED FOR THE CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROCESS.

EVERYONE SHOULD ALSO ADOPT AN ATTITUDE WHICH WAS MORE SUITED TO THE PROCESS OF NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT, DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID. -- BERNAMA

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