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MAHATHIR-ELECTION

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KUALA KUBU BARU, DEC 19 (BERNAMA) -- PRIME MINISTER DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD TODAY REITERATED THAT HIS PLANNED VISITS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH THE HOLDING OF A GENERAL ELECTION.

HE SAID THERE WERE PEOPLE WHO HOPED THE VISIT WAS RELATED TO PREPARATIONS TO FACE THE GENERAL ELECTION.

+ JUST FORGET IT, IT IS STILL A LONG WAY OFF.. WE HAVE NO PLANS TO HOLD A GENERAL ELECTION JUST YET,+ HE SAID AT A MEETING WITH GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES IN SELANGOR AT THE SUNGAI CHOH COMMUNITY HALL NEAR HERE. THE PRIME MINISTER IS ON A ONE-DAY TOUR OF THE HULU SELANGOR DISTRICT, AS PART OF HIS VISITS TO ALL DISTRICTS IN THE COUNTRY.

THE VISITS TO THE DISTRICTS WERE TO LOOK AT PROGRESS OF DEVELOPMENT AND TO HAVE CLOSER RELATIONS WITH OFFICERS INVOLVED IN DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES, HE SAID.

THE HULU SELANGOR DISTRICT IS THE FIRST IN HIS SERIES OF VISITS TO DISTRICTS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY. -- MORE

2034HST 19 12 88

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MAHATHIR-ELECTION 2 KUALA KUBU BAHARU

CLOSE RELATIONS BETWEEN GOVERNMENT LEADERS AND ITS EMPLOYEES WERE NECESSARY TO FACILITATE IMPLEMENTATION OF GOVERNMENT POLICIES.

+ IF WE ONLY HAVE AN ELECTED GOVERNMENT BUT DO NOT HAVE OFFICERS TO IMPLEMENT THE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES, ADMINISTRATION WILL BE MEANINGLESS AND THE GOALS OF DEVELOPMENT WILL NOT BE ACHIEVED,+ HE SAID.

+AS SUCH IT IS VERY IMPORTANT THAT THE ELECTED GOVERNMENT HAS CLOSE RAPPORT WITH OFFICERS IMPLEMENTING PROJECTS SO THAT THEY UNDERSTAND THE GOVERNMENT'S ASPIRATIONS AND INDIRECTLY UNDERSTAND THE NEEDS OF THE PEOPLE,+ HE SAID.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID AS LONG AS THE PEOPLE CHOSE THE GOVERNMENT, WHATEVER THE GOVERNMENT DID SHOULD BE REGARDED AS WHAT THE PEOPLE WANTED AND IN A DEMOCRATIC COUNTRY, THE WISHES OF THE PEOPLE WERE SUPREME. -- MORE

2038HST 19 12 88

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MAHATHIR-ELECTION 3 KUALA KUBU BAHARU

ON THE MALAYSIA INCORPORATED CONCEPT AND THE PRIVATISATION POLICY, HE SAID THE ULTIMATE AIM WAS TO UPGRADE THE PEOPLE'S LIVING STANDARD.--BERNAMA

2103HST 19 12 88