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ALOR SETAR, APRIL 3, (BERNAMA) -- PRIME MINISTER DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD HAS EXPRESSED REGRET THAT THERE ARE STILL PEOPLE WHO ARE NOT ONLY UNGRATEFUL FOR THE GOOD LIFE THEY ENJOY IN THE COUNTRY BUT ARE ALSO PREPARED TO CRITICISE THOSE WHO PROVIDE THEM THE COMFORTS.

THESE PEOPLE, SOME WITH HIGH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION, WERE ALSO PREPARED TO SLANDER OTHERS, HE SAID AT A BREAKING OF FAST AT MASJID KAMPUNG PUTAT IN KUBANG PASU DISTRICT HERE LAST NIGHT.

+THEY RAISE PROBLEMS THAT SHOULD NOT BE RAISED. THEY CRITICISE CERTAIN PEOPLE, TELL (THE PEOPLE) TO REMOVE THEM (THE LEADERS),+ HE ADDED.

+THEY ACCUSE OTHERS OF BEING UN-ISLAMIC OR FAKIR (INFIDEL) FOR DOING CERTAIN THINGS. NOW THEY ARE DOING THE SAME THINGS.+

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID, HOWEVER, THAT NOT MANY PEOPLE WERE INFLUENCED BY THE SLANDER AND INSTIGATIONS OF THESE GROUPS.

HE ALSO QUESTIONED THE MOTIVES OF THESE GROUPS BECAUSE, ACCORDING TO HIM, PEOPLE WITH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION SHOULD TEACH THE MUSLIMS TO BE MORE GRATEFUL. -- MORE
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HE ALSO SAID THAT THE PEOPLE SHOULD NOT DEPEND SOLELY ON THE GOVERNMENT TO PROVIDE AMENITIES IN THEIR AREAS AND SHOULD INSTEAD USE THEIR OWN INITIATIVE TO PROVIDE COMFORTS IN THEIR VILLAGES.

THE GOVERNMENT HELD CLEANLINESS COMPETITIONS IN THE VILLAGES SO THAT THE PEOPLE WOULD BEAUTIFY AND LOOK AFTER THE CLEANLINESS OF THEIR VILLAGES THEMSELVES, HE ADDED.

HE ALSO PRAISED THE PEOPLE OF KAMPUNG MELELE, KUBANG PASU, WHICH WAS SELECTED AS THE CLEANEST AND MOST BEAUTIFUL VILLAGE IN KEDAH LAST YEAR.

PRESENT WERE DATUK SERI DATIN PADUKA DR SITI HASMAH MOHAMAD ALI AND MENTERI BESAR DATUK SERI HAJI OSMAN AROFF. -- BERNAMA
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