

MAHATHIR

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(P)

IPOH, JUNE 24 (BERNAMA) - - THE GOVERNMENT MAY INTRODUCE NEW ANTI-LITTER LAWS WHICH MAY PUNISH OFFENDERS BY MAKING THEM CLEAN UP AREAS THEY MADE DIRTY, PRIME MINISTER DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD SAID TODAY.

HE SAID THE PROPOSED RULINGS WHICH WOULD ALSO IMPOSE FINES, WERE AIMED AT DISCIPLINING THE PEOPLE TO BE HYGIENIC AND CLEANLINESS-CONSCIOUS.

BY INTRODUCING SUCH LAWS, IT DID NOT MEAN THE GOVERNMENT WAS BEING HASTY IN ITS ACTION AS EVEN DEVELOPED COUNTRIES TOO HAD ENFORCED SIMILAR REGULATIONS, HE SAID.

LAUNCHING THE 1990 NATIONAL-LEVEL +CLEAN AND BEAUTIFUL+ CAMPAIGN AT THE CITY PADANG IN GREENTOWN HERE, THE PRIME MINISTER SAID SUCH AN APPROACH WOULD NOT ONLY EDUCATE BUT ALSO CHANGE THE PEOPLE'S ATTITUDE.

THE PROGRAMME WHICH CARRIES THE THEME +CLEAN CITIZENS, HEALTHY NATION+ SEEKS TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF LIFE THROUGH CLEAN AND BEAUTIFUL ENVIRONMENT.

THE EMPHASIS IS ON LOCAL AUTHORITIES NATION-WIDE TO SPEARHEAD THE CAMPAIGN THIS TIME AROUND.-- MORE
1200MST 24 06 90

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MAHATHIR 2 IPOH

THE HOUSING AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT MINISTRY WAS ENTRUSTED TO IMPLEMENT THE PROGRAMME COMPREHENSIVELY OVER FIVE YEARS BECAUSE SIMILAR CAMPAIGNS IN THE PAST WERE INEFFECTIVE.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID THE PROGRAMME SHOULD BE ABLE TO OVERCOME FLAWS IN PAST EFFORTS AND BRING ABOUT LONG-LASTING AND DEEPLY INGRAINED EFFECTS.

MANY MALAYSIANS WERE STILL APATHETIC DESPITE THE VARIOUS GOVERNMENT EFFORTS STRESSING ON CLEAN AND BEAUTIFUL ENVIRONMENT, PERHAPS BECAUSE A SECTION OF THE COMMUNITY JUST COULD NOT BE BOTHERED ABOUT IT, HE SAID,

+EVEN IF SOME DO, THEY ARE BEING DOUBLE-STANDARD BY ONLY CARING ABOUT THE BEAUTY AND CLEANLINESS OF THEIR HOMES BUT CANNOT CARE LESS FOR THE ENVIRONMENT OUTSIDE AND THEY LITTER AROUND AS THEY WISH,+ HE SAID.

THIS HABIT MUST BE DONE AWAY WITH AND CHECKED, SAID THE PRIME MINISTER ADDING THAT FOR SUCH PEOPLE EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMES WERE NEEDED TO CREATE AWARENESS.-- MORE
1223MST 24 06 90

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U E 970 AAE
MAHATHIR 3 IPOH

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THERE WAS ALSO AN ECONOMIC DIMENSION TO THE CAMPAIGN IN TERMS OF RECYCLING OF WASTES WHICH COULD LEAD TO A RECYCLING INDUSTRY TO CREATE BUSINESS AND JOB OPPORTUNITIES.

HE SAID MALAYSIANS THROW AWAY 101500 TONNES OF WASTES DAILY INCLUDING METALS, GLASS AND PAPER AND RECYCLING THEM COULD GENERATE AN INDUSTRY WORTH ABOUT A \$1 BILLION ANNUALLY.

AS THE +CLEAN AND BEAUTIFUL+ PROGRAMME INVOLVED A NATIONAL CAMPAIGN TO RECYCLE WASTES SUCH DISUSED CARS, BOTTLES AND ALUMINIUM PRODUCTS, THE PUBLIC CAN SELL STEEL ITEMS TO SYARIKAT PERWAJA IN TERENGGANU, HE SAID.

IN THIS WAY THEY NOT ONLY HELP IT OBTAIN RAW MATERIALS BUT ALSO SAVE FOREIGN EXCHANGE ON GETTING +SCRAP IRON+ FROM ABROAD, HE SAID.

SIMILARLY OTHER WASTES SUCH TIMBER, BOTTLES, CARDBOARD PAPER COULD ALSO BE RECYCLED, HE SAID.-- MORE

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U E971 AAE
MAHATHIR 4 IPOH

IN PARTICULAR CASES, RUBBISH COULD BE USED AS FUEL TO GENERATE ELECTRICITY? HE SAID.

HOUSEWIVES SHOULD BE TAUGHT TO PUT RUBBISH FOR RECYCLING IN PLASTIC BAGS SEPARATE FROM THOSE TO BE THROWN AWAY FOR GOOD, HE SAID.

HE SAID IN DEVELOPED COUNTRIES? UNLESS SUCH SEPARATION WAS DONE, HOUSEHOLD RUBBISH WOULD NOT BE COLLECTED.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THE PROGRAMME WOULD INCREASE DEMAND FOR CLEANLINESS-RELATED PRODUCTS SUCH RUBBISH BAGS, BINS, GRASS CUTTERS, DUMP TRUCKS, BEACH CLEANING TRUCKS AND SOLID WASTE TREATMENT PLANTS.

THIS WOULD IN TURN PROMPT MANUFACTURERS TO BOOST PRODUCTION WHICH WOULD INCREASE BUSINESS AND JOB OPPORTUNITIES, THE PEOPLE'S INCOME AND HELP REDUCE LIVING COSTS, HE SAID.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID A CLEAN AND BEAUTIFUL ENVIRONMENT ITSELF COULD BE A TOURIST ATTRACTION AND THIS COULD ALSO BE A BOON TO THE GROWTH OF THE NATIONAL TOURISM INDUSTRY.-- MORE

1321MST 24 06 90

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U E972 AAE
MAHATHIR 5 IPOH

THE GOVERNMENT HAD SPENT A SUBSTANTIAL SUM TO PROMOTE MALAYSIA ABROAD AS A CLEAN AND BEAUTIFUL COUNTRY AND AS SUCH TOURISTS COMING HERE SHOULD NOT FEEL BEING MISLED BY SUCH ADVERTISEMENTS.

+IF WE ADVERTISE MALAYSIA AS A CLEAN AND BEAUTIFUL COUNTRY, SO BE THE IMPRESSION WE GIVE THE TOURISTS,+ HE SAID.

CLEANLINESS SHOULD BE PART OF MALAYSIAN CULTURE, THE PRIME MINISTER SAID AND HE URGED PARENTS, TEACHERS AND HEADS OF DEPARTMENT TO INSTIL THIS AMONG THE PEOPLE.

IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE LAUNCHING WHICH WAS ATTENDED BY 10,000 PEOPLE, THE PRIME MINISTER PRESENTED POSTERS TO REPRESENTATIVES OF HAWKERS AND ORGANISATIONS BEFORE TOURING AN EXHIBITION ON THE PROGRAMME.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR AND DATUK SERI DATIN PADUKA DR SITI HASMAH MOHAMAD ALI ACCOMPANIED BY MENTERI BESAR TAN SRI RAMLI NGAH TALIB AND IPOH DATUK BANDAR DATUK HAJI UMAR ABU LATER HAD REFRESHMENTS AT THE BOUGAINVILLEA GARDEN ADJACENT TO THE CITY HALL.

THE 1.2 HA GARDEN WAS DEVELOPED WITH A \$200,000 FEDERAL GRANT.--

BERNAMA

1347MST 24 06 90