

MAHATHIR-JOBS R'R'R'

BM

BERUAS, AUG 27 (BERNAMA) -- PRIME MINISTER DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD HAS ASSURED THE PEOPLE THAT THE NATIONAL INDUSTRIALISATION POLICY IS ABLE TO CREATE AMPLE JOBS FOR THE COUNTRY'S INCREASING POPULATION.

+IN FACT WE NOW HAVE A SITUATION OF JOBS WAITING FOR WORKERS ESPECIALLY IN THE INDUSTRIAL SECTOR,+ HE SAID WHEN ADDRESSING A MEET-THE-PEOPLE GATHERING AT BAKAR BATA NEAR HERE TODAY.

DESPITE THE POPULATION INCREASING ANNUALLY, THE GOVERNMENT COULD STILL PROVIDE THE PEOPLE WITH JOBS THROUGH THE INDUSTRIALISATION POLICY, HE SAID.

THIS WAS ONE OF THE MANY ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE RULING BARISAN NASIONAL GOVERNMENT WHICH WAS CONSTANTLY THINKING OF HOW TO FURTHER UPGRADE THE COUNTRY'S LEVEL OF PROGRESS.

HE SAID THROUGH THE VISIT MALAYSIA YEAR PROGRAMMES, THE GOVERNMENT NOT ONLY HAD WOODED TOURISTS TO SPEND MONEY AT HOTELS BUT ALSO AT ROAD SIDE STALLS.-- MORE

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THIS HAD ENABLED ALL LEVELS OF SOCIETY TO ENJOY SPINOFFS FROM TOURISM-RELATED PROGRAMMES, HE SAID.

THE PEOPLE SHOULD BE THANKFUL THAT THEY COULD LIVE IN THIS PEACEFUL COUNTRY AND ARE FREE TO EXPRESS THEMSELVES AND ASSEMBLE UNLIKE FEAR-RIDDEN CITIZENS OF CRISIS-TORN COUNTRIES IN THE GULF AREA, HE SAID.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID MALAYSIA'S ACHIEVEMENTS AFTER 33 YEARS OF INDEPENDENCE THROUGH THE ALLIANCE AND LATER THE BN GOVERNMENT WAS FAR GREATER THAN THAT DURING THOSE YEARS IT WAS UNDER COLONIAL RULE.

THE PREVAILING PEACE AND FREEDOM IN THE COUNTRY ALLOWED GENERAL ELECTIONS TO BE HELD FOR THE PEOPLE TO MAKE DECISIONS WITHOUT FEAR, HE SAID.

IN THIS CONTEXT, HE SAID, THE NEXT GENERAL ELECTION IS NOT MEANT TO PROMOTE CERTAIN INDIVIDUALS TO BE MPS BUT MORE IMPORTANTLY TO ENABLE THE PEOPLE TO ELECT THE GOVERNMENT OF THEIR CHOICE, HE SAID.-- MORE

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DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR REMINDED THE PEOPLE NOT TO BE EASILY INFLUENCED BY OPPOSITION PARTIES WHICH SACRIFICED THEIR IDEALS JUST TO FISH FOR VOTES.

HE SAID PAS WHICH PREVIOUSLY CHAMPIONED THE CAUSE FOR AN ISLAMIC STATE, WAS NOW COLLABORATING WITH THE DAP WHICH HAD OPENLY REJECTED THE PAS' CAUSE.

HE SAID THE DAP WANTED TO USE A MALAY SPLINTER PARTY LIKE SEMANGAT 46 BECAUSE VOTES FROM THE LATTER'S SUPPORTERS COULD BE CRUCIAL IN HELPING THE DAP TO WIN IN THE NEXT GENERAL ELECTION.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID THE DAP HAD DECLARED THAT IT ONLY NEEDED 500 VOTES FROM SEMANGAT 46 SUPPORTERS TO WIN IN EACH CONSTITUENCY IN PULAU PINANG.

THE PRIME MINISTER ADVISED SEMANGAT 46 LEADERS INCLUDING PERAK STATE ASSEMBLYMAN FOR PENGKALAN BARU, DATUK HAJI ABDUL MALIK AHMAD NOT TO BE MADE A TOOL BY ITS LEADERS. -- MORE

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DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR, WHO IS UMNO PRESIDENT, SAID SEMANGAT 46 CHIEF TENGKU RAZALEIGH HAMZAH DID NOT HAVE PLANS FOR DEVELOPMENT AND FORMED THE PARTY BECAUSE HE HAD FAILED TO SECURE A PLACE IN UMNO.

HE SAID THE PEOPLE SHOULD REJECT SUCH A LEADER WHO WOULD DO ANYTHING TO ACHIEVE HIS SELFISH OBJECTIVES.

ON A RECENT PAS-ORGANISED DEMONSTRATION AT THE US EMBASSY IN KUALA LUMPUR TO PROTEST AGAINST AMERICAN PRESENCE IN SAUDI ARABIA, THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THE SAUDIS HAVE THE RIGHT TO SEEK HELP FROM ANYONE THEY FANCIED TO HELP DEFEND THE KINGDOM.

MCA PRESIDENT DATUK SERI DR LING LIONG SIK, MIC PRESIDENT DATUK SERI S. SAMY VELLU, GERAKAN PRESIDENT DATUK SERI DR LIM KENG YAIK, PRESIDENT OF THE PEOPLE'S PROGRESSIVE PARTY DATUK MAK HON KAM AND MENTERI BESAR TAN SRI RAMLI NGAH TALIB ALSO ADDRESSED THE GATHERING.

THE PRIME MINISTER LATER VISITED THE DINDING POULTRY PROCESSING FACTORY, A JOINT VENTURE WITH A JAPANESE FIRM IN KAMPUNG ACHEH, SITIAWAN AND HELD A CLOSED-DOOR MEETING WITH STATE BN LEADERS IN LUMUT.-- BERNAMA

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