

D972

R E033 AAE

MAHATHIR-RULERS

BM

GUA MUSANG, SEPT 28 (BERNAMA) -- PRIME MINISTER DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD SAID TODAY HE REGRETTED THAT CERTAIN PEOPLE HAVE MADE USE OF THE PALACE FOR POLITICAL GAIN EVEN THOUGH THE RULERS HAVE KEPT THEMSELVES ABOVE POLITICS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CONSTITUTION.

+THEY HAVE TAKEN ADVANTAGE OF THE VISITS OF THE RULERS TO CERTAIN AREAS TO FURTHER THEIR POLITICAL INTERESTS, AND THIS IS NOT GOOD,+ HE SAID AT A MEETING WITH SETTLERS AND ORANG ASLI IN FELDA CIKU TIGA HERE.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THAT IN SUCH A SITUATION, THE PEOPLE WHO WERE IGNORANT THOUGHT THAT THE SULTAN OR THE PALACE WAS INVOLVED IN POLITICS.

HE SAID HE WAS HAPPY THAT THE SULTAN OF KELANTAN HAD SAID IN HIS BIRTHDAY SPEECH RECENTLY THAT HE DID NOT INTERFERE IN POLITICS.

+THAT IS THE ROLE OF THE RULER, NOT TO INTERFERE IN POLITICS, AND IN OUR COUNTRY, WE HAVE TO MAKE THE ROLE OF THE RULER DISTINCT FROM POLITICS,+ HE SAID. -- MORE

2306MST 28 09 90

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R E034 AAE

MAHATHIR-RULERS 2 GUA MUSANG

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID IF THE RULERS GOT INVOLVED IN POLITICS, IT WOULD TARNISH THE INSTITUTION OF THE MONARCHY BECAUSE IT WOULD THEN BE OPEN TO RIDICULE.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID IT WAS IN THE CULTURE OF THE MALAYS NEVER TO RIDICULE THE RULERS.

HE ALSO SAID THAT HE REGRETTED THAT CERTAIN PEOPLE HAD GONE TO THE LAND SCHEMES TO INSTIGATE THE SETTLERS TO HATE THE GOVERNMENT.

+THESE PEOPLE HAVE ACTUALLY BEEN WORKING ON THE DIRECTIVES OF THEIR LEADERS WHO ARE UNGRATEFUL TO THE GOVERNMENT EVEN AFTER HAVING BENEFITED FROM IT,+ HE SAID.

HE SAID THE GOVERNMENT HAD PROVIDED VARIOUS FACILITIES IN THE LAND SCHEMES, INCLUDING WATER AND ELECTRICITY SUPPLY, SCHOOLS AND CLINICS. -- MORE

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R E036 AAE  
MAHATHIR-RULERS 3 GUA MUSANG

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID THE SETTLERS WERE A PRIVILEGED GROUP BECAUSE NO OTHER COUNTRY HAD DONE THIS FOR ITS PEOPLE.

HE SAID LEADERS OF ZIMBABWE AND NIGERIA HAD BEEN IMPRESSED WITH THE SUCCESS OF FELDA AND WOULD EMULATE ITS PROGRAMMES IN THEIR COUNTRIES.

HE SAID FELDA HAD SO FAR DEVELOPED 574,000 HECTARES, AND ADDED THAT THE GOVERNMENT WOULD CONTINUE TO OPEN UP FELDA SCHEMES.

ON PARTI SEMANGAT 46, HE CALLED ON THE PEOPLE OF GUA MUSANG NOT TO VOTE FOR THE CANDIDATE FROM THE PARTY IN THE NEXT GENERAL ELECTION.

ALSO PRESENT AT THE FUNCTION WERE MENTERI BESAR TAN SRI MOHAMED YAACOB, MCA PRESIDENT DATUK SERI DR LING LIONG SIK, GERAKAN PRESIDENT DATUK SERI DR LIM KENG YAIK AND MIC PRESIDENT DATUK SERI S. SAMY VELLU. -- BERNAMA

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