

PM: Other countries using our techniques

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By Ahmad A. Talib

GUA MUSANG, Fri. — Malaysia's administrative and development techniques continue to inspire developing countries, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today.

Many of these countries have either adopted some of our techniques or are about to do so, he added.

Speaking to settlers and Orang Asli at the Chiku Tiga Felda scheme, about 40km from here, he said although Malaysians did not normally acknowledge it, its administrative system was highly regarded by many developing countries.

The most recent admirers were Zimbabwe and Nigeria.

The Zimbabwean Government, headed by its president Dr Robert Mugabe, had decided to use the Felda scheme as a model for its land development.

Dr Mahathir said Felda, which had opened 1.4 million acres of land, had not only become the largest agricultural land developer in the world but also

attracted the attention of Third World countries.

Nigeria recently sent a 62-member team to study various facets of our administration and development system.

Its report had impressed the Nigerian Government so much that it decided to introduce the wearing of name tags by civil servants, he said, adding that it was also studying the possible implementation of other Malaysian practices.

The Prime Minister told about 5,000 settlers that all these had been made pos-

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sible due to a strong, continuous Government.

On attempts by certain quarters to implicate Malay Rulers in their political scheme, Dr Mahathir said he was happy the Rulers had not been influenced.

Dr Mahathir said he was gratified at the recent statement by the Sultan of Kelantan that there was no interference by the palace in politics.

He said the system of constitutional monarchy and parliamentary democracy must be protected.