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Mahathir-Mesra

RAPID GROWTH IS THE RESULT OF PLANNED DEVELOPMENT, SAYS PM

JASIN, May 2 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today Malaysia's rapid economic growth does not come naturally but as a result of planned development.

All this was made possible because of peace prevailing in the country where people were able to live in harmony, he said.

Malaysians also believed in working together in the developing the country and sharing the fruits of development, he said when launching the state-level "Gerak Mesra" at Bukit Sedanan Felcra near here.

Dr Mahathir said this was unlike in other countries, bigger and richer than Malaysia, but without peace as communities fought each other.

"When there is no peace, there is no wealth...if there are victors, they reap empty glory because there is no wealth to be distributed," he said.

He said Malaysians should not view the economic growth enjoyed by the country as something natural because it was not.

It was achieved through concerted efforts made possible by the peace in the country, he said.

"We will soon launch the Seventh Malaysia Plan...six development plans had been implemented with tremendous success due to the cooperation between the people and the government and between employees and employers," he said.

He said Malaysia's plural society shared common values and this made them different from the people of other countries.

Also present at the 10,000 strong gathering were Datin Paduka Dr Siti Hasmah, Information Minister Datuk Mohamed Rahmat, Rural Development Minister Datuk Annuar Musa and Chief Minister Datuk Mohd Zin Abdul Ghani.

--BERNAMA

MOZ AH ABG