

Sultan: Don't oppose development or you will become isolated
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PENGERANG: Sultan Ibrahim Sultan Iskandar has reminded his subjects not to oppose any form of development if they do not want to be isolated or neglected.

The ruler expressed his disappointment with a group of people who had objected to the development of the Refinery and Petro-chemical Integrated Development (Rapid) project here.

"They instigate the people of Pengerang to protest and to make demands," he said, adding that as the Sultan of Johor, he did not want any Johorean to be left behind in development.

"Fifty years ago, people here worked mainly as fishermen and farmers.

"Now, with improved education, many young people have moved to the cities looking for jobs.

"Rapid will make Johor the most developed state in the country and an important trading and investment destination in Asia.

"This will ensure jobs and better income for the young people," he said when launching the Petronas refinery and petrochemical integrated project here yesterday.

Earlier, the Sultan launched the annual Kembara Mahkota programme, a state-wide royal expedition which allows the ruler and his family to meet his subjects and stay up to date with developments.

The Sultan reminded the people to respect the country's laws and not to be involved in mass demonstrations that could threaten the country's peace.

Expressing his concern with recent incidents that led to violence and vandalism, he said: "All this is just for publicity in the media."

He further warned: "Do not do things according to your whims and fancy in the name of human rights."

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