

KUALA LUMPUR, JULY 12 (BERNAMA) --- DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMED HAS CEASED TO BE A MEMBER OF THE CENTRAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL OF UMNO MALAYSIA WITH EFFECT FROM TODAY, A STATEMENT FROM THE COUNCIL SAID TODAY.

THIS DECISION WAS TAKEN AT A MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD AT THE RESIDENCE OF THE DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS, TUN ABDUL RAZAK AT +SR! TAMAN+ HERE.

TUN RAZAK, WHO IS THE DEPUTY NATIONAL PRESIDENT OF UMNO, CHAIRED THE MEETING.

A STATEMENT ISSUED AFTER THE MEETING BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF UMNO, ENCHE SENU BIN ABDUL RAHMAN, SAID THAT DR. MAHATHIR ATTENDED THE MEETING.

THE PRIME MINISTER, TUNKU ABDUL RAHMAN, WHO IS ALSO THE NATIONAL PRESIDENT OF UMNO WAS NOT PRESENT.

THE STATEMENT ADDED THAT ALL CABINET MINISTERS AND MENTRIS BESAR, WHO ARE MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL, AND OTHER MEMBERS ALSO ATTENDED.

THE MEETING WAS HELD AS THE COUNCIL FELT THAT DR. MAHATHIR HAD CONTRAVENED THE PARTY'S DISCIPLINE AND REGULATIONS.

THIS COULD CREATE DISUNITY WITHIN THE PARTY, THE STATEMENT ADDED. --- BERNAMA MORE 1818.

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THE STATEMENT SAID: +A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE UMNO EXECUTIVE COUNCIL WAS HELD THIS MORNING IN KUALA LUMPUR TO CONSIDER THE ACTION THAT SHOULD BE TAKEN REGARDING THE WIDESPREAD DISTRIBUTION OF COPIES OF CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN DR. MAHATHIR, A MEMBER OF THE UMNO EXECUTIVE COUNCIL, AND TUNKU ABDUL RAHMAN PUTRA, PRESIDENT OF UMNO.

+THE LETTERS CONTAINED VITALLY IMPORTANT PARTY MATTERS AND DETAILS, WHICH, IN VIEW OF THE PRESENT SITUATION IN THE COUNTRY, SHOULD HAVE BEEN FIRST DISCUSSED BY THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL OF UMNO.

+THE MEETING DECIDED THAT THE ACTION OF DR. MAHATHIR CONSTITUTED A SERIOUS BREACH OF PARTY DISCIPLINE AND REGULATIONS WHICH UNCHECKED WOULD DESTROY THE UNITY WITHIN THE PARTY AND THE GOVERNMENT WHICH IS SUPPORTED BY THE PARTY. - BERNAMA MORE 1910

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+THE UMNO EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING, ATTENDED BY ALL CABINET MINISTERS, MENTRIS BESAR WHO ARE MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL AND OTHER MEMBERS INCLUDING DR. MAHATHIR, DECIDED THAT DR. MAHATHIR HAS CEASED TO BE A MEMBER OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL AS FROM TODAY.

+THE TUNKU WAS NOT PRESENT AT THE SPECIAL MEETING. --- BERNAMA 1911

MAHATHIR