

87:

SENATE-MAHATHIR

BM

P. KUALA LUMPUR, JAN. 17 (BERNAMA)-- EDUCATION MINISTER (DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMED TOLD THE DEWAN-NEGARA TODAY THE MALAYSIAN STUDENTS OVERSEAS WHO CARRIED OUT THE '+HATE MALAYSIA+' CAMPAIGN HAD HOPED THE TACTIC WOULD GAIN THEM PERMANENT STAY IN THE FOREIGN COUNTRY IN WHICH THEY WERE STUDYING.

THEIR SO-CALLED '+FEAR+' OF RETURNING HOME ON THE PURPORTED GROUNDS '+THAT THE MALAYSIAN GOVERNMENT WOULD DETAIN THEM+' WAS JUST A PIECE OF FRAUD AIMED AT GETTING THE SYMPATHY OF THE FOREIGN COUNTRY CONCERNED.

REPLYING TO ISSUES RAISED DURING THE DEBATE ON THE SUPPLY ENACTMENT, HE ADDED THAT '+SAYING GOODBYE TO THESE KIND OF PEOPLE WOULD NOT BE A LOSS FOR US,+

HE SAID A CLEARER PICTURE OF THE SITUATION IN THE COUNTRY, PARTICULARLY THE STUDENTS WILD ALEGATION OF '+STARVATION+' IN BALING WOULD BE GIVEN TO MALAYSIAN STUDENTS STUDYING IN OTHER COUNTRIES.

THE FINDINGS OF AN INDEPENDENT AND VOLUNTARY INVESTIGATION INTO THE ALLEGATION BY UNIVERSITI KEBANGSAAN PROFESSORS AND LECTURER WOULD BE MADE KNOWN TO THESE STUDENTS.

THE TEAM HAD FOUND THE CHARGE TO BE UNTRUE. --BERNAMA MORE 1748/MD

88:

SENATE-MAHATHIR 2 KUALA LUMPUR

DR. MAHATHIR DISCLOSED THAT THE GOVERNMENT WOULD SET UP A HOSTEL FOR MALAYSIAN STUDENTS IN CAIRO, EGYPT.

TO A SUGGESTION BY SENATOR DATUK NIK HASSAN BIN HAJI NIK YAHYA, THE MINISTER SAID HE WOULD VISIT COUNTRIES WHERE '+ANTI-MALAYSIA+' CAMPAIGNS WERE REPORTED TO BE CARRIED OUT. --BERNAMA 1750/MD

(F)

113:

SENATE—MAHATHIR 3 KUALA LUMPUR

DR. MAHATHIR SAID HE HAD OFTEN BEEN BOOED AN INSULTED AT STUDENT FORUMS AND MEETINGS.

THE STUDENTS, THE MINISTER SAID, TREATED SUCH OCCASIONS AS TIME FOR ENTERTAINING THEMSELVES.

ACCORDING TO MALAY CUSTOMS, DR. MAHATHIR ADDED, THE GUESTS SHOULD BE TREATED WITH RESPECT, BUT FOR THE STUDENTS THIS WAS OUT OF DATE AND CONSIDERED AN ELEMENT OF FEUDALISM.

+PERHAPS THEIR IDEA IS THAT WHEN THERE ARE GUESTS IN THE HOUSE, THEY SHOULD BE INSULTED.+

HE EXPLAINED THAT HE HAD MANY DIALOGUE SESSIONS WITH SMALL GROUPS OF STUDENTS.

HE HOPED THAT WITH SUCH MEETINGS, RELATIONS BETWEEN THE STUDENTS AND THE AUTHORITIES WOULD BE STRENGTHENED.

— BERNAMA MORE 1800/SZ

(F)

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SENATE—MAHATHIR 4 KUALA LUMPUR

THE MINISTER SAID THE AMENDMENT WAS ALSO MEANT TO DISCIPLINE LECTURERS BECAUSE SOME OF THEM USED THEIR LECTURES TO SPREAD THEIR IDEOLOGY TO THE STUDENTS.

THERE WAS A CASE IN WHICH A LECTURER HAD WARNED HIS STUDENTS HE WOULD FAIL THEM IF THEY DID NOT ANSWER EXAMINATION QUESTIONS IN LINE WITH THE HIS IDEOLOGY.

THE LECTURER WAS ALLOWED TO TEACH AT THE UNIVERSITY BECAUSE THE GOVERNMENT HAD A LIBERAL ATTITUDE TOWARDS EDUCATION BUT SUCH LECTURERS USED THE LIBERALISM TO PROPOUND THEIR POLITICAL IDEOLOGIES.

THIS WAS AN UNHEALTHY SITUATION AND THE GOVERNMENT COULD NOT ALLOW IT TO CONTINUE.

+WE WANT THEM TO PERFORM THEIR DUTIES IN AN OBJECTIVE MANNER AND NOT USE EVERY OPPORTUNITY TO INCREASE THEIR INFLUENCES AND ALIENATE THE VIEWS OF OTHER PEOPLE.+

DR. MAHATHIR EXPLAINED THAT THE ACT DID NOT APPLY TO STUDENTS OF THE ITM AND THE UNGKU OMAR POLYTECHNIC.

THERE MIGHT BE OTHER WAYS TO CHECK SUCH UNDESIRABLE ACTIVITIES OF STUDENTS AT INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING WHICH WERE NOT CONTAINED IN THE UNIVERSITY AND UNIVERSITY COLLEGES ACT, HE SAID. — BERNAMA MORE 1920/AB

(F)

143:

SENATE—MAHATHIR S. KUALA LUMPUR

ON THE SUGGESTION THAT STUDENTS BE TAUGHT DISCIPLINE, THROUGH RELIGION, DR. MAHATHIR SAID RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTIONS WERE AVAILABLE AT UNIVERSITIES WHILE AT THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, IT WAS A COMPULSORY SUBJECT.

HE EXPLAINED THAT RELIGION HOWEVER HAD BEEN USED BY CERTAIN LEADERS TO INFLUENCE THE STUDENTS THINKING, SUCH AS DURING THOSE LECTURES DURING MORNING PRAYERS.

THE PERIOD FOLLOWING PRAYERS WAS NOT USED TO FOR PRAYING BUT FOR LECTURES TO STIR THEM UP AGAINST THEIR FELLOW MUSLIMS.

HE WAS NOT SURE THAT SUCH LECTURES WERE BENEFICIAL AND THEY HAD BEEN DISCONTINUED.

DR. MAHATHIR ALSO SAID THAT RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AT UNIVERSITIES SHOULD BE SUPERVISED AND IT SHOULD BE DETERMINED WHO SHOULD TEACH IT. HE SAID THAT TWO LECTURERS IN RELIGION FROM INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING WERE DETAINED RECENTLY.

ON THE APPOINTMENT OF DEANS, DR. MAHATHIR SAID THAT IN THE PAST, THERE WAS A GENERAL ELECTION BUT POLITICS HAD CAUSED DISUNITY AMONG THE LECTURERS.

WITH THE AMENDMENT, DEANS OF FACULTIES WOULD BE APPOINTED BY VICE-CHANCELLORS AND NO LONGER ELECTED BY THE STAFF MEMBERS.

--BERNAMA 1945/1B