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MAHATHIR

ALOR STAR, OCT. 11 (BERNAMA)— EDUCATION MINISTER DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMED SAID TODAY HE WAS AWARE THAT MALAYSIAN STUDENTS IN AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND HAD BEEN LEVELLING CRITICISM AT THE MALAYSIAN GOVERNMENT. THESE STUDENTS, HE ADDED, HAD BEEN INSTIGATED BY SOME FOREIGN STUDENTS WHO HAD LEFTIST LEANINGS.

DR. MAHATHIR MADE THE STATEMENT WHEN ADDRESSING ABOUT 1,000 TEACHERS FROM KEDAH ON +TEACHERS AND THE PRESENT SITUATION+ AT THE STADIUM DATUK SYED OKAR, HERE.

DR. MAHATHIR SAID SOME MALAYSIAN STUDENTS IN AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND HAD USED THEIR CRITICISM AGAINST THE MALAYSIAN GOVERNMENT AS AN EXCUSE FOR REMAINING IN THE TWO COUNTRIES.—BERNAMA MORE 1800/1B

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+THIS SMALL GROUP OF STUDENTS WANT TO BE CITIZENS OF AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND AND THEY CLAIM THAT IF THEY RETURN TO MALAYSIA THEY WOULD BE ARRESTED+, HE SAID.

DR. MAHATHIR POINTED OUT THAT STUDENTS WHO GOT INVOLVED IN ACTIVITIES DETERIMENTAL TO THE MALAYSIAN GOVERNMENT WHILE STUDYING ABROAD WOULD +CERTAINLY+ BE DETAINED ON THEIR RETURN.

EARLIER, DR. MAHATHIR TOLD THE TEACHERS THAT THEY COULD PLAY THEIR PART IN HELPING THE GOVERNMENT TO FACE ITS TWO MAJOR PROBLEMS— THE THREAT BY COMMUNIST TERRORISTS AND INFLATION.

HE ALSO SAID THE PEOPLE MUST ALWAYS BE ON THEIR GUARD AGAINST THE COMMUNIST TERRORISTS.—BERNAMA MORE 1805/1B

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HE SAID RECENT EVENTS HAD SHOWN THAT THE COMMUNIST TERRORISTS WERE NOT ONLY CONFINING THEMSELVES TO THE JUNGLES BUT ALSO TO THE BIG TOWNS.

HE SAID THE COMMUNISTS WERE MAKING EVERY EFFORT TO WEAKEN THE GOVERNMENT BY CREATING DISTURBANCES AND *DISRUPTING* DISMEMBERING THE UNITY AMONG THE PEOPLE.

HE ALSO SAID THERE WAS NO NECESSITY AT PRESENT TO DECLARE A STATE OF EMERGENCY DESPITE THE TERRORIST THREAT.—BERNAMA 1810/1B