

(F)

81:

HUSSEIN - DEPUTY 2 KUALA LUMPUR

BM

KUALA LUMPUR, MARCH 5 (BERNAMA) — DATUK HUSSEIN ONN HOPES THAT HIS CHOICE OF DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMED AS DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER WILL BE ACCEPTED AND SUPPORTED BY THE NATION.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID HE HAD GIVEN SERIOUS CONSIDERATION TO THE APPOINTMENT OF A DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER.

+ IN THE INTERESTS OF THE NATION I HAVE TO APPOINT A DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER NOW, + HE TOLD REPORTERS AT THE PRIME MINISTER'S OPERATIONS ROOM HERE THIS EVENING.

HE SAID: + I HAVE MADE MY CHOICE. I PRAY AND HOPE THAT THE CHOICE IS CORRECT AND APT AND THAT THE NEW DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER WILL BE ACCEPTED AND SUPPORTED BY THE NATION. +

HE ALSO SAID THAT HE MADE THE CHOICE + ONLY LAST NIGHT. + --  
BERNAMA MORE 1655/A1

(F)

83

HUSSEIN-DEPUTY 2 KUALA LUMPUR

THE UMNO SUPREME COUNCIL HELD A CLOSED-DOOR MEETING AT DATO' HUSSEIN'S RESIDENCE LAST NIGHT.

ASKED WHETHER HE MADE THE CHOICE BEFORE OR AFTER THE MEETING, DATO' HUSSEIN SAID IT WAS IMMATERIAL.

HE SAID HE DID NOT EXPECT 100 PER CENT ACCEPTANCE OF HIS CHOICE.

+ I TOOK A LONG TIME TO THINK IT OVER BEFORE I MADE MY CHOICE, + DATO' HUSSEIN SAID. -- BERNAMA MORE 1700/MM

(F)

105:

HUSSEIN - DEPUTY 3 KUALA LUMPUR (RE-OPENS ITEM 83):

ON THE NEW CABINET, DATO' HUSSEIN SAID IT WAS MADE UP TO REFLECT THE MULTI-RACIAL SOCIETY IN THE COUNTRY.

HE SAID CONSIDERATION WAS ALSO GIVEN TO TWO MAJOR FACTORS:

+ TO ENSURE A MORE JUST AND PROSPEROUS SOCIETY AS ENVISAGED IN THE THIRD MALAYSIA PLAN TO BE LAUNCHED THIS YEAR, AND

+ TO ENSURE SECURITY AND NATIONAL SOVEREIGNTY, WHICH WERE BEING THREATENED BY COMMUNIST TERRORISTS AND SUBVERSIVE ELEMENTS. --

BERNAMA MORE 1825/A1

(F)

106:

HUSSEIN - DEPUTY 4 KUALA LUMPUR

DATO' HUSSEIN SAID THAT IN FACING THESE CHALLENGES, HE HAD APPOINTED SEVERAL NEW MINISTERS AND RETAINED THE SERVICES OF MINISTERS IN THE OLD CABINET.

THIS WOULD ENSURE THE CONTINUATION OF EFFICIENT AND SMOOTH ADMINISTRATION.

THE NEW CABINET WOULD BE ABLE TO BENEFIT FROM THE EXPERIENCE OF THESE MINISTERS, HE STRESSED.

ON THE INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF DEPUTY MINISTERS AND PARLIAMEN- TARY SECRETARIES, HE SAID THIS WAS TO PROVIDE TRAINING AND EXPERI- ENCE AND CREATE A FUTURE LEADERSHIP AND POTENTIAL MINISTERS. --  
BERNAMA MORE 1830/A1

(F)

115:

HUSSEIN - DEPUTY 5 KUALA LUMPUR 𠵿'𠵿'𠵿'

DATO' HUSSEIN SAID THE DEPUTY MINISTERS AND PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARIES WERE +ADDITIONAL MANPOWER TO HELP IN THE WORK OF THE MINISTERS.+

HE SAID THE FUNCTIONS OF A MODERN GOVERNMENT WAS MORE DIFFICULT BECAUSE OF RISING EXPECTATIONS OF THE PEOPLE.

MINISTERS FELT THEY NEEDED HELP IN CARRYING OUT THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES. -- BERNAMA MORE 1832/A1

(F)

118:

HUSSEIN-DEPUTY 6 KUALA LUMPUR 𠵿'𠵿'𠵿'

DATO HUSSEIN ALSO TOOK THE OPPORTUNITY TO RESTRUCTURE THE FUNCTIONS OF SEVERAL MINISTRIES.

ON THE NEW APPOINTMENTS FOR HIS CABINET, HE EXPLAINED THAT THIS WAS NOT AN EASY JOB.

+TO FORM A CABINET IS NOT AN EASY JOB FOR A PRIME MINISTER, ESPECIALLY FOR ME AS IT IS THE FIRST TIME THAT I AM HANDLING THIS RESPONSIBILITY,+ HE ADDED.

HE SAID THE SELECTION BECAME MORE DIFFICULT IN VIEW OF THE VARIOUS COMPONENT PARTIES WITHIN BARISAN NASIONAL.

THE NEW CABINET HAD TO PRESENT A PROPER RACIAL BALANCE FOR IT TO REFLECT THE COUNTRY'S MULTI-RACIAL SOCIETY.

DATO' HUSSEIN, BESIDES BEING THE PRIME MINISTER, ALSO HOLDS THE DEFENCE PORTFOLIO. -- BERNAMA 1837/A1