

N144 (F)
MAHATHIR-UMNO
BM

21/10/77

76 (2)

SUNGEI PETANI, AUG. 24 (BERNAMA) -- UMNO MEMBERS WHO ARE ACTIVE IN WORKERS' UNIONS HAVE BEEN REMINDED NOT TO INVOLVE THEMSELVES IN ACTIVITIES WHICH MIGHT THREATEN PARTY UNITY.

IN MAKING THE CALL, DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMED SAID UNITY WITHIN UMNO SHOULD BE MAINTAINED AS IT REPRESENTED A STRONG BULWARK IN THE NATION'S SECURITY AND DEPENDENCE.

IN VIEW OF THIS, PARTY MEMBERS SHOULD CHOOSE EITHER THE PARTY WHICH SHOULDERED THE NATION'S ASPIRATIONS OR THE UNIONS WHICH FOUGHT FOR THE INDIVIDUAL'S INTERESTS.

SPEAKING AT THE NATIONAL UMNO 30TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS ORGANISED BY THE DIVISION HERE TODAY, HE STRESSED THAT NO ONE COULD POSSIBLY GIVE EFFECTIVE CONTRIBUTIONS TO TWO ORGANISATIONS WHICH HAD CONFLICTING POLICIES AND OBJECTIVES. -- BERNAMA MORE 2203/AZ

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N145 (F)
MAHATHIR-UMNO 2 SUNGEI PETANI

ON THE IBRAHIM ALI ROYAL COMMISSION SALARY REPORT, DR. MAHATHIR, WHO IS ALSO UMNO NATIONAL VICE-PRESIDENT, SAID ALTHOUGH THERE WERE WORKERS' UNIONS WHICH UNDERSTOOD THE GOVERNMENT'S MOVE TO POSTPONE THE RELEASE OF THE REPORT, THERE WERE STILL OTHERS WHO URGED FOR ITS IMMEDIATE RELEASE.

HE SAID THE POSTPONEMENT WAS NOT BECAUSE THE GOVERNMENT DID NOT AGREE WITH THE REPORT BUT TO ENABLE IT TO DRAFT ANOTHER SALARY SCALE FOR THE LOWER-PAID OFFICERS.

THIS WAS BECAUSE THE PROPOSED SALARY SCALE BENEFITED THE HIGHER PAID OFFICERS RATHER THAN THE LOWER-PAID ONES.

HE SAID IT WAS NOT FAIR TO GIVE INCREASES OF ONLY \$5 TO LOWER PAID OFFICERS WHILE THOSE IN THE UPPER CATEGORY RECEIVED INCREASES UP TO \$4,000.

TO ENSURE THAT EVERY WORKER RECEIVED A FAIR SALARY SCALE, THE GOVERNMENT HAD TO REVISE THE REPORT, HE ADDED. -- BERNAMA MORE 2206/AZ

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N146 (F)
MAHATHIR-UMNO 3 SUNGEI PETANI

DR. MAHATHIR SAID IF THE GOVERNMENT IMPLEMENTED THE REPORT, IT WOULD HAVE TO SPEND AN ADDITIONAL \$500 MILLION A YEAR OR \$2,500 MILLION IN FIVE YEARS TO PAY THE SALARIES OF GOVERNMENT OFFICERS.

UNDER THE THIRD MALAYSIA PLAN, THE GOVERNMENT WOULD SPEND \$22 BILLION IN SALARIES TO 500,000 GOVERNMENT OFFICERS COMPARED WITH \$18.6 BILLION TO BE SPENT ON DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS WITHIN THE SAME PERIOD.

THIS WOULD NOT BE FAIR, HE ADDED. -- BERNAMA 2207/AZ