

MAHATHIR-REPORT

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KUALA LUMPUR, MAY 24 (BERNAMA)--DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMAD ASSURED TODAY THAT THE POSITIONS OF CONTRACT AND TEMPORARY OFFICERS WHO WERE LEFT OUT IN THE CABINET COMMITTEE REPORT WOULD BE DETERMINED AFTER THE NEW SALARY SCHEMES WERE IMPLEMENTED.

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER STRESSED THAT THE OFFICERS' CASES WOULD BE THOROUGHLY STUDIED TO ENSURE THEY WERE GIVEN FAIR SCALES.

DR. MAHATHIR, WHO IS ALSO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE, SAID THIS AFTER VISITING THE ROYAL MALAYSIAN AIR FORCE ENGINEERING SCHOOL IN KINRARA NEAR HERE.

HE REITERATED THAT THE REPORT COULD NOT COVER EVERY CATEGORY OF GOVERNMENT STAFFS IN VIEW OF THEIR LARGE NUMBER OF MORE THAN HALF A MILLION PEOPLE.

+MOREOVER THE CAPACITY OF THE COMMITTEE IS LIMITED TO ENABLE IT TO STUDY EVERY KIND OF STAFF IN DETAIL,+ HE SAID. --BERNAMA MORE 1549/MD

MAHATHIR - REPORT 2 KUALA LUMPUR

DR. MAHATHIR ALSO SAID THE GOVERNMENT WAS STILL STUDYING THE LEGAL IMPLICATION OF SETTING UP AN INDEPENDENT BODY TO INVESTIGATE ANOMALIES IN THE REPORT.

THE GOVERNMENT HAD TO CAREFULLY STUDY THE SETTING UP OF SUCH A BODY TO DETERMINE ITS POWERS, HE STRESSED.

+AN INDEPENDENT BODY WITHOUT ITS TERMS OF REFERENCE AND SPECIFIC POWERS SURELY WILL NOT BE ABLE TO CARRY OUT ITS DUTIES EFFECTIVELY,+ HE SAID.

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER ALSO REPLIED TO QUESTIONS REGARDING TRADE UNIONS ALLEGATION THAT THE PUBLIC SERVICES DEPARTMENT HAD MADE ITS OWN INTERPRETATIONS OF THE REPORT. ALLEGATIONS

HE SAID: +WE HAVE STUDIED SOME OF THE UNIONS AND MEMORANDA RECEIVED.

+POSSIBLY SOME OF THE ALLEGATIONS ARE TRUE OR OTHERWISE BUT WHAT IS IMPORTANT IS ALL CAN BE NEGOTIATED AND RECTIFIED ALTHOUGH EVERY STAFF HAVE MADE THEIR OPTION, HE SAID. -- BERNAMA MORE 1552/MD

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MAHATHIR - REPORT 3 KUALA LUMPUR

+THERE IS NO PROBLEM IN THIS MATTER BECAUSE IF THE MATTERS ARE NOT RIGHT THEY CAN STILL BE RECTIFIED,+ HE ASSURED.

ON HIS VISIT TO THE SCHOOL, DR. MAHATHIR EXPLAINED IT WAS IMPORTANT TO KNOW THE DEFENCE FACILITIES IN THE COUNTRY.

+AS A CABINET MEMBER IT IS MY RESPONSIBILITY TO KNOW THE PROGRESS AND PROBLEMS FACED,+ HE SAID.

EARLIER, THE COMMANDANT OF THE SCHOOL, LIEUTENANT-COLONEL (AIR) KAMARUDDIN SHARIFF IN HIS BRIEFING SAID THE RMAF WAS LOOKING FOR A NEW SITE TO SHIFT THE SCHOOL.

THE SCHOOL, NOW SITUATED IN 14-ACRE LAND WAS NO LONGER ADEQUATE TO CATER FOR EXPANSION AND TRAINING DEVELOPMENT OF RMAF.

DR. MAHATHIR WAS RECEIVED ON ARRIVAL BY THE DEPUTY CHIEF OF RMAF, AIR COMMODORE MOHAMAD NGAH SAID.

DR. MAHATHIR ALSO INSPECTED A QUARTER GUARD. --BERNAMA 1557/MD