

PARLIAMENT—MAHATHIR
BM

KUALA LUMPUR, NOV. 27 (BERNAMA) — DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMAD SAID TODAY THAT IF NOT FOR THE DAP RACIALISM WOULD NOT BE A PROBLEM AND MODERATION WOULD PERMEATE ALL COMMUNITIES IN THE COUNTRY.

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER SAID THAT THE DAP WAS THE MOST EXTREME AMONG ALL POLITICAL PARTIES IN PLAYING RACIAL POLITICS.

+IF THE MCA, MIC OR UMNO CALLS ON THE COMMUNITY IT REPRESENTS TO UNITE, THIS IS TO MAKE IT EASIER FOR THE COMMUNITIES TO COOPERATE UNDER BARISAN NASIONAL, + HE TOLD THE DEWAN RAKYAT.

THE DAP, ON THE OTHER HAND, WAS CHINESE CHAUVINIST IN CHARACTER AND THE ISSUES IT RAISED WERE ONLY PREVENTING THE CHINESE TO COOPERATE WITH THE OTHER COMMUNITIES, HE SAID.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR WAS REPLYING TO ENCIK TING CHEK MING (DAP-BRUAS) WHO WANTED TO KNOW WHETHER CHINESE UNITY UNDER MCA, MALAY UNITY UNDER UMNO AND INDIAN UNITY UNDER MIC REPRESENTED RACIALISM. —BERNAMA MORE 1833/MD

HE REGRETTED THAT THE MEMBER AND HIS PARTY HAD NOT UNDERSTOOD OR REFUSED TO UNDERSTAND THE SITUATION ALTHOUGH IT HAD BEEN REPEATEDLY EXPLAINED TO THEM.

+THE MEMBER REFUSES TO ACCEPT THE FACT THAT IT IS PRACTICE, NOT CALLS, THAT ARE IMPORTANT,+ DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR SAID.

REPLYING TO ENCIK LEE LAM THYE (DAP—KUALA LUMPUR BANDAR), HE SAID MALAYSIA WAS NOW WELL—KNOWN AS A COUNTRY WHICH, SINCE IT OBTAINED INDEPENDENCE, HAD NOT ONLY ACHIEVED GREAT PROGRESS BUT ALSO STABILITY.

HE SAID THAT IF RACIAL ISSUES HAD NOW CROPPED UP, THEY WERE THE RESULT OF THE DAP'S ACTIVITIES ALL THIS WHILE. —BERNAMA MORE 1836/MD

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REPLYING TO ENCIK NAKHAIE HAJI AHMD (PAS—BALING), THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER SAID THE GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATIVE MACHINERY WAS IN MOTION ALL THE TIME, NOT ONLY DURING PRE—AND POST—ELECTION PERIODS.

HOWEVER, DURING PRE—ELECTION PERIODS THE MACHINERY WOULD STEP UP CERTAIN ACTIVITIES SUCH AS DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION ON GOVERNMENT PROJECTS AND POLICIES.

THIS WAS DONE BECAUSE DURING SUCH TIMES THE OPPOSITION PARTIES WOULD BE TAKING THE OPPORTUNITY TO DISCREDIT THE GOVERNMENT AND CONFUSE THE PEOPLE IN REGARD TO GOVERNMENT PROJECTS AND POLICIES.

ON THE SETTING UP OF A PETRONAS DIESEL/KEROSENE STATION IN KUALA BESUT AT A TIME WHEN A BY—ELECTION WAS BEING HELD IN THE CONSTITUENCY, DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR SAID THIS WAS COINCIDENTAL.

HE SAID THE AREA WAS FACING A SHORTAGE OF DIESEL AT THAT TIME AND IF THE STATION HAD NOT BEEN SET UP, PAS WOULD HAVE MADE POLITICAL CAPITAL OUT OF IT. —BERNAMA MORE 1840/MD

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REPLYING TO ENCIK KARPAL SINGH (DAP—JELUTONG), THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER SAID THAT THE LOWER INCOME GROUP WAS GIVEN THE HIGHEST PAY INCREASE IN TERMS OF PERCENTAGE UNDER THE GOVERNMENT'S RECENT SALARY REVISION.

HOWEVER, IN ABSOLUTE TERMS THE SENIOR RANKING OFFICERS RECEIVED MORE BECAUSE THEIR BASIC SALARIES WERE HIGH.

ENCIK KARPAL SINGH ALLEGED THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAD GIVEN SENIOR RANKING OFFICERS HIGHER SALARY INCREASES COMPARED TO THE LOW—INCOME GROUP.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR ASKED THE MEMBER TO STATE WHERE IN THE WORLD SENIOR OFFICERS WERE GIVEN SALARY INCREASES WHICH, IN ABSOLUTE TERMS, WERE THE SAME AS OR LOWER THAN THAT GIVEN TO THE LOW—INCOME GROUP.

+THIS CANNOT BE PRACTISED EVEN IN THE COMMUNIST AND SOCIALIST COUNTRIES,+ HE ADDED.

HE SAID THAT IF THIS PRACTICE WAS ADOPTED, THE POSSIBILITY WAS THAT NO ONE WOULD WANT TO BE AN OFFICER, PREFERRING TO BE AN OFFICE—BOY INSTEAD. —BERNAMA 1847/MD