

CHANGLOON, JAN. 16 (BERNAMA) — DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER (DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMAD SAID TODAY THAT A POLITICAL PARTY WAS CARRYING OUT A CAMPAIGN TO DISCREDIT THE GOVERNMENT.

ACCORDING TO HIM, PARTY LEADERS AND SUPPORTERS WERE GOING FROM KAMPUNG TO KAMPUNG INSTIGATING THE PEOPLE TO HATE THE GOVERNMENT AND ITS LEADERS.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR TOLD A GATHERING AT KAMPUNG CHANGKAT SETOL, NEAR THE KEDAH-THAI BORDER, THAT HE HIMSELF HAD BECOME THE MAIN TARGET IN THE CAMPAIGN.

HE SAID HE WAS AWARE THAT THE POLITICAL PARTY WAS TAKING STEPS TO PREPARE FOR THE GENERAL ELECTIONS.

IT WAS KEEN TO TOPPLE HIM AS A MEMBER FOR KUBANG PASU, HE ADDED. "THESE PEOPLE HAD TRIED TO INCITE HATRED AGAINST ME BY PREPARING VARIOUS PHOTOGRAPHS DEPICTING ME AS A NON-MUSLIM."

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR SAID.
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THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER SAID LEADERS OF UMNO, BARISAN NASIONAL AND THE GOVERNMENT HAD BECOME TARGETS IN THE CAMPAIGN.

EARLIER, DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR URGED THE PEOPLE TO POSSESS THE POLITICAL WILL TO ENSURE A STABLE AND STRONG GOVERNMENT. MALAYSIA, HE ADDED, WAS WELL-KNOWN FOR ITS STABILITY, PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENT AND MANY FOREIGN INDUSTRIALISTS WERE CONTINUING TO SUPPORT THE GOVERNMENT BY INVESTING IN THIS COUNTRY.

HOWEVER, HE SAID THAT THERE WAS A SECTION OF THE PEOPLE IN THIS COUNTRY WHO DID NOT APPRECIATE THE PEACEFUL ENVIRONMENT HERE AND WERE INSTEAD GOING AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR SAID THAT THOSE WHO POSSESSED BASIC ISLAMIC KNOWLEDGE COULD ALSO BE INFLUENCED BY THEM AND ONE EXAMPLE WAS MUSA AHMAD, CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF MALAYA.

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EVEN THOUGH MUSA WAS EDUCATED AT THE MADRASAH AL-MASHUR IN PENANG, HE WAS INFLUENCED BY THE ANTI ISLAMIC TEACHINGS UNTIL HE WAS ELECTED THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY.

TOUCHING ON THE TRANSFER OF SHARES OF THE 21 SELECTED COMPANIES HELD BY THE GOVERNMENT, HE URGED THEM TO START WITH A \$10 INVESTMENT.

HE SAID THOUGH THE GOVERNMENT COULD NOT GUARANTEE THAT THEY WOULD PROFIT FROM THE INVESTMENT, HE WAS CONFIDENT THAT THEY WOULD AT LEAST GET A 10 PER CENT PROFIT.

—BERNAMA 2022/AN