

NO60: (F)
MAHATHIR-TIME
BM

KUALA LUMPUR, DEC 5²¹ (BERNAMA) -- THERE IS A GREAT POSSIBILITY THAT THE PROPOSED STANDARD TIME FOR THE WHOLE COUNTRY WILL BE ENFORCED FROM JAN. 1, PRIME MINISTER DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD SAID TODAY. (P)

THE STANDARD TIME WILL BE BASED ON THE EXISTING SABAH/SARAWAK TIME WHICH IS HALF-AN-HOUR EARLIER THAN THE TIME IN PENINSULAR MALAYSIA.

HE SAID THE SABAH/SARAWAK TIME ZONE PROVIDED THE NORMAL TIME DIFFERENTIAL OF ONE HOUR IN RELATION TO OTHER TIME ZONES.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR ADDED THAT THE TIME ZONE FOR THE PENINSULA AND SINGAPORE WAS SOMEWHAT PECULIAR AS THE DIFFERENCE WAS ONLY HALF-AN-HOUR AND NOT IN UNIFORMITY WITH OTHER INTERNATIONAL TIME ZONES.

THE PRIME MINISTER WAS SPEAKING TO REPORTERS AFTER CHAIRING THE MONTHLY UMNO SUPREME COUNCIL MEETING AT THE PARTY'S HEADQUARTERS HERE. -- BERNAMA MORE 1539/A1

NO61: (F)
MAHATHIR-TIME 2 KUALA LUMPUR

HE SAID THE COUNCIL HAD EXPRESSED ITS AGREEMENT WITH THE GOVERNMENT'S INTENTION OF HAVING A STANDARD TIME FOR THE COUNTRY AND THAT THE MATTER BE BROUGHT UP AT THE CABINET MEETING.

+THE SUPREME COUNCIL WILL ACCEPT EVERY DECISION TAKEN BY THE CABINET,+ DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID. -- BERNAMA MORE 1540/A1

NO75: (F)
MAHATHIR-TIME 3 KUALA LUMPUR

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR, WHO IS ALSO THE UMNO PRESIDENT, SAID SOME OF THE PROBLEMS RELATED TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE STANDARD TIME HAD BEEN RESOLVED AND SEVERAL ADJUSTMENTS NEEDED TO BE MADE.

AMONG THEM WAS THE PROBLEM OF GIVING TIME OFF FOR FRIDAY PRAYERS AND ALSO THE TIME TO START WORK FOR GOVERNMENT SERVANTS.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID AFTER THE CABINET HAD GIVEN ITS DECISION ON THE MATTER, HE PLANNED TO CONVEY THE GOVERNMENT'S INTENTION ON IMPLEMENTING THE PROPOSAL TO THE SINGAPORE GOVERNMENT DURING HIS VISIT TO THE REPUBLIC.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR'S VISIT TO SINGAPORE HAD BEEN SCHEDULED FOR JAN. 17 AND 18.

HE SAID IT WAS IMPORTANT FOR THE SINGAPORE GOVERNMENT TO BE INFORMED OF THE MOVE AS THE REPUBLIC WAS ADOPTING THE SAME TIME ZONE AS PENINSULAR MALAYSIA. -- BERNAMA MORE 1610/AI

NO76: (F)
MAHATHIR-TIME 4 KUALA LUMPUR

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID OTHER MATTERS TO BE DISCUSSED DURING HIS VISIT TO THE REPUBLIC WOULD FOCUS ON THE RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES.

OUTSTANDING ISSUES, HE SAID, WERE THOSE RELATING TO LAND, TRAIN SERVICES, RMN BASE AND THE JOHORE CAUSEWAY.

HE DESCRIBED THE EXISTING RELATIONS BETWEEN MALAYSIA AND SINGAPORE AS GOOD + IN FACT BETTER THAN THE TIME WHEN WERE FIRST SEPARATED. +

NEVERTHELESS, HE SAID, THE RELATIONS COULD BE FURTHER IMPROVED.

TODAY'S MEETING WHICH LASTED THREE HOURS WAS ATTENDED BY ALL MEMBERS EXCEPT FOUR. THEY ARE INFORMATION MINISTER DATUK MOHAMED RAHMAT, JOHORE MENTERI BESAR TAN SRI HAJI OTHMAN SAAT, DEPUTY KELANTAN MENTERI BESAR DATUK HAJI HUSSAIN AHMAD AND FORMER PAHANG MENTERI BESAR HAJI ABDUL RAHIM BAKAR.

DATUK MOHAMED AND DATUK HAJI HUSSAIN ARE AT PRESENT IN MANILA FOR THE SEA GAMES WHILE TAN SRI HAJI OTHMAN HAD TO ATTEND THE JOHORE STATE ASSEMBLY AND HAJI ABDUL RAHIM IS ON STUDY LEAVE IN THE UNITED STATES. -- BERNAMA 1615/AI