

NO02 (F)  
MAHATHIR (BERNAMA EX)

BY SAJAD HUSSEIN

KUALA LUMPUR, JULY 19<sup>81</sup> (BERNAMA) — TENGKU RAZALEKHA MANJAN WILL RETAIN THE FINANCE PORTFOLIO IF HE DECIDES TO REMAIN IN THE GOVERNMENT, DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMAD SAID TODAY.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR, WHO WILL BE SWORN IN AS THE NATION'S FOURTH PRIME MINISTER AT 11 A.M. ON JULY 16, SAID THERE WOULD BE NO MAJOR CHANGES IN THE NEW CABINET TO BE ANNOUNCED ON JULY 20.

HOWEVER, THERE WOULD BE SOME RESHUFFLING INVOLVING BOTH MINISTERS AND DEPUTY MINISTERS, HE TOLD BERNAMA.

HE SAID THAT FORMER SELANGOR MENTRI BESAR DATUK MAJI HARUN IERIS WOULD NOT BE GIVEN A MINISTERIAL POST EVEN IF HE WAS PARDONED +BECAUSE HE IS NOT A MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT+.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR SPOKE ON VARIOUS TOPICS INCLUDING THE NEXT GENERAL ELECTION, MALAYSIA'S FOREIGN POLICY, TRADE POLICIES, EDUCATION AND THE CIVIL SERVICE.

— BERNAMA MORE 0955/AZ

NO03 (F)  
MAHATHIR 2 KUALA LUMPUR (BERNAMEX)

ON THE NEXT GENERAL ELECTION, HE SAID THERE WOULD BE NO NEW CONSTITUENCIES AND THAT IT WAS TOO EARLY TO SAY WHETHER BARISAN NASIONAL COMPONENT PARTIES WOULD BE ALLOCATED THE SAME SEATS OR THERE WOULD BE A REALLOCATION OF SEATS.

HE DESCRIBED THE DEFECTION OF MEMBERS FROM ONE BARISAN NASIONAL COMPONENT PARTY TO ANOTHER AS +UNFORTUNATE BUT UNAVOIDABLE+.

ON THE PAS THREAT TO THE BARISAN NASIONAL PARTICULARLY UMNO, HE SAID IT WAS +IRRITATING+.

HE DISMISSED SPECULATIONS THAT PAS INFLUENCE IN HIS CONSTITUENCY OF KUBANG PASU IN KEDAH WAS SPREADING.

+THIS IS NOT TRUE, IT IS ONLY THEIR DREAM,+ HE ADDED.

— BERNAMA MORE 0957/AZ

NO04 (F)  
MAHATHIR 3 KUALA LUMPUR (BERNAMA EX)

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR SAID THAT THERE WOULD BE NO CHANGES IN THE COUNTRY'S FOREIGN POLICY.

ON THE COMMUNIST THREAT, HE SAID: +IT IS LESS SERIOUS THAN BADAH BUT STILL SERIOUS,+

ASKED IF IT WAS TRUE THAT THE MCA AND OTHER NON-BUMIPUTRA PARTIES WERE RATHER APPREHENSIVE OF HIS LEADERSHIP, DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR SAID: +I AM NOT AWARE OF THIS+.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR, WHO IS ALSO THE TRADE AND INDUSTRY MINISTER, SAID THERE WOULD BE NO CHANGES IN THE COUNTRY'S TRADE POLICIES.

— BERNAMA MORE 0959/AZ

MAHATHIR 4 KUALA LUMPUR (BERNAMA EX)

THE PRESENT TRADE POLICY AND INCENTIVES WILL NOT BE CHANGED, HE ADDED.

HE SAID THAT THE NEW GOVERNMENT WOULD PROVIDE MORE INFORMATION AND BETTER SERVICE TO ATTRACT MORE INVESTORS TO THE COUNTRY.

ON EDUCATION, DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR ASSURED THAT THE PRESENT POLICY WOULD BE MAINTAINED.

HE ALSO SAID THAT A SPECIAL PANEL WOULD BE SET UP TO STUDY WHETHER GOVERNMENT POLICIES AND PROJECTS WERE COMPATIBLE WITH ISLAM.

THE GOVERNMENT, HE ADDED, WOULD ALSO ENSURE THAT ISLAM WAS CORRECTLY INTERPRETED AND GIVEN ITS RIGHTFUL PLACE OF PROMINENCE AS THE NATION'S OFFICIAL RELIGION.

— BERNAMA MORE 1002/AZ

NO06 (F)

MAHATHIR 5 KUALA LUMPUR (BERNAMA EX)

ON THE CIVIL SERVICE, DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR SAID THE CODE OF ETHICS FOR CIVIL SERVANTS INTRODUCED THREE YEARS AGO HAD BEEN QUITE EFFECTIVE.

ON DEMANDS FOR CIVIL SERVANTS BELOW SUPERSCALE G TO ALSO BE GIVEN HOUSING ALLOWANCE, HE SAID THE GOVERNMENT HAD NO PLANS TO DO.

HE POINTED OUT THAT CIVIL SERVANTS BELOW SUPERSCALE G WERE BEING PAID THE CIVIL SERVICE ALLOWANCE, COMPENSATING FOR THEIR NOT GETTING THE HOUSING ALLOWANCE.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR ALSO SAID THAT THE AMENDMENTS TO THE COUNTRY'S LABOUR LAWS INTRODUCED LAST YEAR HAD BEEN QUITE EFFECTIVE.

THIS WAS IN SO FAR AS TO CURB UNFAIR PRACTICES AMONG UNIONISTS AND THE INTERFERENCE OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE SECRETARIATS IN LOCAL UNION AFFAIRS.

DATUK SER DR. MAHATHIR REFUTED ALLEGATIONS THAT THE RECENT AMENDMENTS TO THE SOCIETIES ACT WERE INTENDED TO CURB THE ACTIVITIES OF THOSE ORGANISATIONS WHICH HAD BEEN CONSTANTLY CRITICISING THE GOVERNMENT.

THIS IS NOT AT ALL TRUE, JUST AS THE THE ACCUSATION THAT IT WAS MEANT TO PREVENT DATUK HARUN FROM CONTESTING IN THE UMNO ELECTION WAS ALSO NOT TRUE, HE ADDED. — BERNAMA 1005/AZ