

MAHATHIR-OFFER
BM

ALOR STAR, MARCH 27 (BERNAMA) -- THE PRIME MINISTER, (DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMAD), TODAY INDICATED HIS REGRET AND DISAPPOINTMENT AT THE +COLD RESPONSE+ TO HIS OFFER TO PAS TO REJOIN THE BARISAN NASIONAL.

ALTHOUGH HE DID NOT SAY IT IN SO MANY WORDS, HIS REMARK THAT +IF THERE IS INTENTION TO TEAM UP, THERE IS NO NEED FOR CONDI-TIONS+ WAS CLEARLY DIRECTED AT PAS PRESIDENT DATUK HAJI MOHAMED ASRI'S REPLY TO HIS OFFER.

THE PAS LEADER HAD SAID THAT DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR SHOULD DISPLAY A READINESS ON THE QUESTION OF PAS REJOINING THE BARISAN NASIONAL.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR HAD ON THURSDAY SAID IN TRENGGANU THAT PAS SHOULD RETURN TO THE BARISAN NASIONAL IN THE INTEREST OF THE PEOPLE, RELIGION AND COUNTRY. -- BERNAMA MORE 1454/AI

NO59: (F)
MAHATHIR-OFFER 2 ALOR STAR

SPEAKING AT THE FOUNDATION STONE-LAYING CEREMONY OF THE MADA HEADQUARTERS BUILDING HERE, DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR SAID THAT IN THE QUESTION OF UNITING, NO CONDITIONS NEED BE MENTIONED.

+WE ARE ALWAYS LOOKING FOR WAYS TO UNITE WITHOUT CONDITIONS,+ HE SAID.

HE SAID THAT IN GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION THE SYSTEM OF MUTUAL HELP WAS ALWAYS UPHELD.

FOR EXAMPLE, OIL-RICH TRENGGANU CAN ASSIST KEDAH WHICH HAS NO OIL OF ITS OWN.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR SAID IT WAS ONLY THROUGH UNITY THAT THE NATION COULD PROGRESS AND ITS PEOPLE ABLE TO ENJOY THE FRUITS OF DEVELOPMENT IN PEACE AND PROSPERITY. -- BERNAMA 1456/AI