

MAHATHIR-UN

82 (P)
KUALA LUMPUR, SEPT 21 (BERNAMA) -- DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMAD IN HIS MAIDEN ADDRESS AT THE U.N. GENERAL ASSEMBLY IS EXPECTED TO STRESS UPON THE NEED TO STEP UP BILATERAL COOPERATION AMONG DEVELOPING COUNTRIES.

DISCLOSING THIS HERE TODAY, FOREIGN AFFAIRS MINISTER TAN SRI GHAZALI SHAFIE SAID THE PRIME MINISTER WAS EXPECTED TO OUTLINE MALAYSIA'S PLAN TO DEVELOP CLOSER RELATIONS WITH SEHELIAN STATES IN AFRICA AND THE SOUTH PACIFIC COUNTRIES.

HE WOULD EMPHASIS THE ROLE THAT THE SLIGHTLY ADVANCED DEVELOPING COUNTRIES LIKE MALAYSIA COULD PLAY AS DONOR COUNTRY TO THE LESSER DEVELOPED ONES, HE SAID.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR WHO IS DUE TO ADRSS THE ASSEMBLY ON SEPT. 29 WOULD ALSO COVER THE WHOLE RANGE OF SUBJECTS INCLUDING THE KAMPUCHEAN PROBLEMS, WEST ASIA AND LEBANESE CRISIS AND ECONOMIC ISSUES PARTICULARLY THE PROBLEMS OF COMMODITIES. --MORE 2028/0M

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ON THE KAMPUCHEAN ISSUE, TAN SRI GHAZALI SAID MALAYSIA WAS ENCOURAGED WITH THE GROWING SUPPORT FOR THE SIHANOUK-LED GOVERNMENT OF DEMOCRATIC KAMPUCHEA.

+WE HAVE MOBILISED MORE OPPINIONS IN FAVOUR OF THE SIHANOUK GOVERNMENT,+ HE SAID.

HE DID NOT SEE ANY SEATING PROBLEM FOR THE COALITION GOVERNMENT IN REPRESENTING DK AT THE CURRENT ASSEMBLY AND PRINCE SIHANOUK HIMSELF WAS ADDRESSING THE ASSEMBLY WHILE PRIME MINISTER SON SANN WOULD LEAD THE DK MISSION AT THE CURRENT SESSION.

HE ALSO ANTICIPATED THAT THE PROBLEM OF THE KAMPUCHEAN SEAT IN THE NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT WOULD SOON BE SOLVED SINCE MOST COUNTRIES NOW SUPPORTING THE SIHANOUK-LED GOVERNMENT AS IT WAS IN LINE WITH THE DECLARATION OF THE U.N. SPONSORED INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON KAMPUCHEA.

+INDIA (WHICH IS HOSTING THE NEXT NON-ALIGNED SUMMIT) IS VERY MUCH ALONE IN RECOGNISING THE HENG SAMRIN GOVERNMENT+, HE SAID.

-- MORE 2056/AN

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ON THE WEST ASIA SITUATION, TAN SRI GHAZALI SAID MALAYSIA STRONGLY FELT THE NEED FOR THE WORLD COMMUNITY TO TAKE STOCK OF THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST BASED ON A NEW ASSUMPTION THAT THE PALESTINIAN LIBERATION FRONT (PLO) HAS SHOWN MORE CREDIBILITY AND RESPONSIBILITY IN HANDLING THE LEBANESE PROBLEM.

HE SAID THE PLO, DESPITE OF ITS ADVERSE SITUATION BEHAVED IN THE MOST RESPONSIBLE WAY BY WITHDRAWING FROM LEBANON BUT THE VICTORS - ISRAEL AND THE CHRISTIAN PHALANGIST FACTION - RESORTED TO HYSTERICAL ACTS SUCH AS THE MASSACRE IN TWO PALESTINIAN REFUGEE CAMPS IN WEST BEIRUT.

+THEY WERE BEHAVING LIKE LOSERS,+ HE ADDED.

HE SAID FOR THE LONG TIME, PLO HAD BEEN CONSIDERED AS TERRORIST GROUP BECAUSE OF SOME VIOLENT ACTS BY SOME OF ITS FACTIONS LIKE THE ONE LED BY GEORGE HABBASH WHILE ISRAEL WAS DESCRIBED AS THE +UNDERDOG+ TRYING TO DEFEND HER SECURITY.

+LET US DISCUSS THE NEW ASSUMPTION AND ON THE BASIS OF THIS NEW ASSUMPTION HOW CAN WE NOW MOVE FORWARD TO FIND A SOLUTION TO THE PROBLEM OF THE PALESTINIANS+, HE SAID.

--MORE 212B/AN

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ACCORDING TO TAN SRI GHAZALI, ANOTHER SUBJECT WHICH NEEDED SOLUTION WAS THE U.N. LAW OF THE SEAS CONVENTION.

HE SAID THE QUESTION OF THE ANTARCTIC SEABED AND OCEAN RESOURCES SHOULD NOT BE SUBJECT TO FRONTIER CLAIMS BUT INSTEAD, SHOULD BE UTILISED FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE MANKIND AND THE WORLD.

TAN SRI GHAZALI WHO WILL BE LEADING THE MALAYSIAN DELEGATION TO THE CURRENT ASSEMBLY, SAID THE DELEGATION THIS YEAR INCLUDED A DEPUTY MINISTER AND THREE MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT.

THEY ARE ENCIK S. SUBRAMANIAN, THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF HOUSING AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT, WHILE THE MPS ARE ENCIK MARK KODING (SABAH), ENCIK TAJOL ROSLI (PERAK), AND ENCIK MOHAMD MUSTAPHA HASSAN (KEDAH)

--BERNAMA 213D/AN