

MAHATHIR - KAMPUCHEA

FROM MERVIN NAMBI

BANGKOK, DEC. 9 (BERNAMA)--INDIA SHOULD ACCEDE TO THE WISHERS OF THE MAJORITY IN THE NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT AND ALLOW PRINCE NORODOM SIHANOUK TO ADDRESS THE NEXT NON-ALIGNED SUMMIT SCHEDULED TO BE HELD IN NEW DELHI IN MARCH; PRIME MINISTER/DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMAD SAID TODAY.

HE SAID THAT ALTHOUGH THE SUMMIT WOULD BE HELD IN INDIA, IT WAS NOT RIGHT FOR THE INDIAN GOVERNMENT AS HOSTS TO IGNORE THE WISHES OF PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES IF THE MAJORITY WANTED THE PRINCE INVITED.

+IT WOULD NOT BE RIGHT FOR THE HOSTS TO DENY WHAT IS BASICALLY THE RIGHT OF A GROUP OF PEOPLE WHO HAVE GONE TO A PARTICULAR COUNTRY TO HOLD A MEETING, +DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR TOLD A NEWS CONFERENCE AT THE END OF A TWO-DAY VISIT TO THAILAND.

+IF WE IN MALAYSIA, FOR EXAMPLE, DO NOT WANT THE PRESENCE OF PEOPLE FROM ANY PARTICULAR NATION IN OUR COUNTRY THAN WE WOULD SIMPLY REQUEST THAT THE CONFERENCE BE HELD ELSEWHERE.+

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR SAID THAT THE LARGER PART OF THE HOUR-LONG PRIVATE TALKS BETWEEN HIM AND THAI PREMIER GENERAL PREM THINBULANONDA YESTERDAY WAS DEVOTED TO THE KAMPUCHEAN PROBLEM.
--MORE 1830/MD

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HE SAID THAT INDIA SHOULD NOT IGNORE THE FACT THAT THE MAJORITY OF MEMBERS IN THE NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT HAD RECENTLY VOTED IN FAVOUR OF THE PRINCE AND HIS COALITION GOVERNMENT OF DEMOCRATIC KAMPUCHEA AT THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

MALAYSIA AND OTHER MEMBERS OF THE NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT WHO SUPPORTED THE PRINCE WERE NOT APPLYING ANY PRESSURE ON INDIA.

+ALL WE WANT IS FOR THE PRINCE TO BE GIVEN AN OPPORTUNITY AS A PROMINENT FIGURE IN THE NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT TO SPEAK AT THE SUMMIT,+ HE SAID.

+TWO WRONG DONT MAKE A RIGHT,+ HE SAID IN REFERENCE TO THE DEMOCRATIC KAMPUCHEAN GOVERNMENT'S EXCLUSION FROM THE LAST NON-ALIGNED SUMMIT IN HAVANA AND THE MORE RECENT ASIAN GAMES IN NEW DELHI.

ASKED IF THE SUPPORT MALAYSIA HAD EXPRESSED FOR THE PRINCE AND HIS GOVERNMENT WOULD INCLUDE MILITARY AID, DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR SAID THAT IT WAS NOT MALAYSIA'S POLICY TO EXPAND MILITARY AID TO ANYONE OUTSIDE THE COUNTRY.

HE SAID THAT MALAYSIAN SUPPORT FOR THE DEMOCRATIC KAMPUCHEAN GOVERNMENT WAS LARGELY AIMED AT ENSURING THAT IT OBTAINED MAXIMUM RECOGNITION IN THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY. --MORE 1850/MD
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BUT HE SAID MALAYSIA WOULD SEE WHAT IT COULD DO WITHIN ITS LIMITED CAPACITY IF THE DEMOCRATIC KAMPUCHEAN GOVERNMENT APPROACHED IT FOR HELP OF A SOCIAL NATURE.

ASKED HOW HE VIEWED CHINESE SUPPORT FOR DEMOCRATIC KAMPUCHEA, DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR SAID HE WELCOMED THE RECENT STATEMENTS IN PEKING THAT CHINESE SUPPORT WOULD BE GIVEN TO ALL THREE KAMPUCHEAN RESISTANCE FACTIONS AND NOT JUST THE COMMUNIST KHMER ROUGE. --
BERNAMA 1852/MD