

MAHATHIR  
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BY A. KARIM SHUKOR

83 P  
SUNGAI PETANI, JUNE 3 (BERNAMA) -- (DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMAD) TODAY REMINDED CABINET MINISTERS AND MEMBERS OF THE GOVERNMENT TO DIVEST THEMSELVES OF ALL BUSINESS TIES.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THAT SOME OF THESE PEOPLE WERE STILL MIXING THEIR FUNCTIONS AS MEMBERS OF THE GOVERNMENT WITH THEIR BUSINESS ACTIVITIES.

"I WILL DISMISS THOSE WHO STILL DO NOT ABIDE BY THE DIRECTIVE ON THE MATTER ISSUED NOT LONG AGO," HE SAID WHEN OPENING THE SUNGAI PETANI UMNO DIVISION DELEGATES' MEETING HERE.

HE SAID HE WOULD NOT HESITATE TO EXPOSE THESE PEOPLE IN PUBLIC IF NECESSARY.

AS MEMBERS OF THE GOVERNMENT, THE PRIME MINISTER SAID, THEY WERE ENJOYING THEIR SALARIES AND VARIOUS AMENITIES AND AS SUCH, "WHAT MORE DO THEY WANT?", HE ASKED. -- MORE 1405/II

MAHATHIR 2 SUNGAI PETANI

THEY SHOULD MAKE A CHOICE ON WHETHER THEY WISH TO SERVE WITH THE GOVERNMENT OR GET INVOLVED IN BUSINESS, HE SAID.

"WE DO NOT WANT THEM TO HAVE EVERYTHING--POWER AS WELL AS WEALTH. WE ALSO DO NOT WANT THE PRIME MINISTER OR HIS DEPUTY TO BE A MILLIONAIRE," DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR SAID.

THE UMNO PRESIDENT STRESSED THAT UMNO HAD NO PLACE FOR THOSE WHO WERE AVARICIOUS.

HE SAID THAT IT WAS IMPERATIVE THAT THE LEADERS DIVORCE THEMSELVES FROM ALL BUSINESS ACTIVITIES BECAUSE AS LEADERS THEY HAD POWERS WHICH THEY COULD ABUSE FOR THEIR OWN INTERESTS IN THE COURSE OF CONDUCTING THEIR BUSINESSES.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR ALSO A REMINDED UMNO LEADERS AND MEMBERS TO SERVE AS AN EXAMPLE FOR THE PEOPLE IN LINE WITH THE GOVERNMENT'S OBJECTIVE IN LAUNCHING THE LEADERSHIP BY EXAMPLE CAMPAIGN.

-- MORE 1410/II

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MAHATHIR 3 SUNGAI PETANI

HE SAID UMNO'S STRUGGLE WAS FAR FROM OVER AND MUCH REMAINED TO BE DONE FOR THE PEOPLE.

ON THE NEW ECONOMIC POLICY, HE SAID THAT THE EFFECTS OF THE POLICY HAD BEEN FELT EITHER DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY.

THE PEOPLE SHOULD REALISE THAT NOT EVERYONE COULD BE RICH, BECAUSE IF THAT HAPPENED ALL WOULD BE POOR.

DIFFERENCES EVEN IN THE SOCIALIST STATES WAS A FACT OF LIFE THAT SHOULD BE ACCEPTED, HE SAID.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMAD HOPED THAT THE MALAYS WOULD NOT DEPEND TOO MUCH ON GOVERNMENT AID AND INSTEAD STRIVE TO STRIKE OUT ON THEIR OWN.

ON THE SUNGAI PETANI UMNO DIVISION, HE SAID HE WAS HAPPY THAT THE UNSATISFACTORY SITUATION THAT HAD ARISEN IN THE PAST HAD BEEN RESOLVED AND HOPED THAT THE MEMBERS WOULD PUT THE INCIDENT BEHIND THEM. -- BERNAMA 1415/II.

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