

PARLIAMENT-PRIVY

BM

83 (P)
KUALA LUMPUR, AUG. 1 (BERNAMA) -- DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD SAID TODAY THAT THE GOVERNMENT'S MORE TO ABOLISH ALL APPEALS IN CIVIL CASES TO THE PRIVY COUNCIL IN BRITAIN WOULD NOT BE ENFORCED IMMEDIATELY.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THAT IT WOULD BE ENFORCED ONLY AFTER BEING GAZETTED AND THE NECESSARY ACTIONS HAD BEEN TAKEN.

THEY INCLUDED MAKING THE NECESSARY AMENDMENTS TO THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT AND THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT ON APPEALS IN CIVIL MATTERS TO THE PRIVY COUNCIL.

IN ADDITION, NECESSARY AMENDMENTS HAD TO BE MADE TO THE EXISTING LAWS IN THE COUNTRY AND ALSO TO THE BRITISH LAWS RELATED TO THE SAME MATTER, HE SAID.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID THIS WHEN TABLING THE CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL WHICH AMONG OTHER THINGS SEEK PROVISIONS TO ABOLISH APPEALS IN CIVIL CASES TO THE PRIVY COUNCIL.

ALL APPEALS IN CONSTITUTIONAL AND CRIMINAL CASES TO THE PRIVY COUNCIL WERE ABOLISHED IN 1978.

-- MORE 2035/LK

ZCZC N136:

PARLIAMENT-PRIVY 2 KUALA LUMPUR

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID THAT THE GOVERNMENT DECIDED ON THE MOVE BECAUSE IT WAS CONFIDENT THAT AFTER 25 YEARS OF INDEPEDENCE IT WAS TIME TO DO SO.

"WE HAVE BEEN INDEPENDENT FOR MORE THAN 25 YEARS AND DURING THE PERIOD THE JUDGES HAVE SHOWN THEIR ABILITY AND COULD HANDLE ALL CASES INCLUDING CIVIL CASES SATISFACTORILY," HE SAID.

"IT IS THEREFORE APPROPRIATE THAT WE HAVE THE CONFIDENCE IN OUR OWN JUDGES TO MAKE FAIR AND WISE JUDGEMENTS," HE ADDED.

-- BERNAMA 2037/LK