

PARLIAMENT-WINDING

BM

84 P
KUALA LUMPUR, JAN. 9 (BERNAMA) DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD TONIGHT CRITICISED THE DAP FOR CAUSING CONFUSION OVER THE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS ISSUE.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THAT ON ONE HAND THE DAP DID NOT SUPPORT THE AMENDMENTS BECAUSE IT FELT THAT THE CHANGES TO ARTICLE 66 WOULD TAKE AWAY THE RIGHTS OF THE YANG DI-PERTUAN AGONG WHILE AT THE SAME TIME IT SAID THAT THE RULERS DID NOT HAVE ANY RIGHTS.

SPEAKING WHEN WINDING UP THE DEBATE ON THE CONSTITUTIONAL (AMENDMENT) BILL 1984 AT THE DEWAN RAKYAT, HE QUESTIONED THE DAP'S STAND.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THE AMENDMENTS MADE WERE NOT UNUSUAL AS OTHER COUNTRIES LIKE INDIA AND KUWAIT HAD ALSO AMENDED THEIR RESPECTIVE CONSTITUTIONS. -- MORE 2101/HM
- PARLIAMENT - WINDING 2 KUALA LUMPUR

HE SAID THERE WERE THREE AREAS IN WHICH THE YANG DI-PERTUAN AGONG NEED NOT ACT ON THE ADVICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER -- THE CHOICE OF A PRIME MINISTER, WITHHOLDING CONSENT TO DISSOLVE PARLIAMENT AND MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF RULERS AND OTHER AREAS STATED IN THE CONSTITUTION.

ON DAP'S CLAIM THAT THE 30-DAY LIMIT WAS TOO SHORT A TIME, DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID IT WAS ENOUGH BECAUSE NOT ALL THE BILLS NEED CLOSE SECURITY BY THE YANG DI-PERTUAN AGONG AND IF THERE WAS NEED FOR THIS, HIS MAJESTY WOULD REFER THEM TO PARLIAMENT.

ON ANOTHER ALLEGATION BY THE PARTY WHICH SAID THAT THE PEOPLE WERE NOT TOLD OF THE AMENDMENTS, THE PRIME MINISTER SAID NOT EVERYTHING COULD BE MADE KNOWN TO THEM BEFORE HAND.

*IF CERTAIN MEMBERS DISTRIBUTED THEIR TEXT OF SPEECH TO OTHER MEMBERS BEFORE SPEAKING, I WOULD DO THE SAME NEXT TIME, + HE ADDED.

- DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID THAT THE FIRST FEATURE PUBLISHED FOR READING WAS BY THE 'ROCKET', + -- DAP'S OFFICIAL PAPER --- AND -- THIS HAD GIVEN RISE TO AGITATION. -- MORE 1019/HM

PARLIAMENT - WINDING 3 KUALA LUMPUR

AT THIS JUNCTURE, DAP SECRETARY GENERAL ENCIK LIM KIT SIANG STOOD UP AND SAID: +THIS SHOWED THE STRENGTH OF THE ROCKET.+
* +HOWEVER, I AM STRONGER BECAUSE I CAN WITHDRAW THE ROCKET'S KDN, AND IT WOULD FALL,+ THE PRIME MINISTER REPLIED DRAWING LAUGHTER FROM THE HOUSE.

ON THE EMERGENCY LAWS, DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID AS LONG AS THE PEOPLE PLACE THEIR FAITH IN THE BARISAN NASIONAL, THEY WOULD BE PERPETUATED FOR THEIR SECURITY.

HE SAID THE LAWS WERE TO OVERCOME THE COMMUNIST THREAT THAT STILL EXISTED IN THE COUNTRY WHILE THEIR ENFORCEMENT IN KELANTAN AND SARAWAK WERE FOR DEFINITE PURPOSES.

GENERALLY, THE EMERGENCY LAWS SHOULD BE ENFORCED TOGETHER WITH NORMAL LAWS THOUGH ON THE WHOLE, THERE WAS NO SUCH SITUATION FOR AN EMERGENCY. -- MORE 1024/HM

ZCZC N161

PARLIAMENT - WINDING 4 KUALA LUMPUR

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR GAVE AN ASSURANCE THAT THEY WOULD NOT BE MISUSED IF THE PEOPLE DID NOT COMMIT OFFENCES PUNISHABLE BY THE LAWS.

REPLY YNG JELUTONG MP ENCIK KARPAL SINGHON THE RIGHT TO DISSENT, HE SAID THE PEOPLE WERE FREE TO DO SO.

IN THIS, THE GOVERNMENT COULD REBUT THE ALLEGATIONS AS DONE BY INFORMATION MINISTER DATUK SERI MOHAMED ADIB ADAM AGAINST COLUMNIST YANSRI DR TAN CHEE KHOON REGARDING THE AMENDMENTS.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID IF THE DAP WERE SINCERE IN DEFENDING THE RULERS' RIGHTS, THEY SHOULD ENSHRINE THIS IN THEIR CONSTITUTION LIKE UMNO. - BERNAMA 2228/HM