

MAHATHIR-MCA

84 (P)

KUALA LUMPUR, HAY 4 (BERNAMA) - - (DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR HOHAMAD SAID TODAY THAT HE HAD NEVER FORWARDED ANY +FORMULA+ TO THE MCA TO HELP THE PARTY LEADERSHIP IN OVERCOMING ITS CRISIS.

+I DID NOT HAVE ANY +FORMULA+ TO OFFER. MAYBE DATUK DR. NEO YEE PAN (THE ACTING MCA PRESIDENT) HAS ONE YOU SHOULD ASK HIM,\* THE PRIME MINISTER TOLD BERNAMA WHEN COMMENTING ON TODAY'S NEWSPAPER REPORT WHICH SAID THAT HE HAD FORWARDED A FORMULA IN A BID TO SOLVE THE ON-GOING MCA CRISIS.

'THE NEGOTIATIONS OVER THE FORMULA THE REPORT SAID WERE UNDERWAY BETWEEN THE NEO YEE PAN AND THE EXPELLED VICE PRESIDENT9 TAN KOON SWAN'S FACTIONS AND THAT IT WOULD HAVE TO BE WORKED OUT WITHIN THE NEXT TWO OR THREE DAYS.

THE REPORT QUOTING SOURCES SAID THE FORMULA CALLED FOR THE SETTING UP OF AN INTERIM CARETAKER FOR THE PARTY WITH STEPS TAKEN TO CLEAR UP THE PHANTOM MEMBERS+ISSUE PLUS THE EXPULSION OR SUSPENSION OF PARTY MEMBERS AND 'BRANCHES.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR MADE IT CELAR THAT: HE HAD ALSO NOT PROPOSED THE SETTING UP OF AN INTERIM CARETAKER ADDING THAT HE MET DATUK DR. NEO ON MONDAY AND ENCXK TAN ON WEDNESDAY MERELY TO LISTEN- TO THEIR POINTS OF VIEW ON THE-TWO MONTH-OLD PARTY CRISIS.

'THEY MET ME SEPARATELY AND EACH OF THEM PRESENTED THEIR SET OF PROPOSALS TO OVER-COME THE CRISIS. I GAVE THEM THE NECESSARY ADVICE' BUT I NEVER FORWARDED ANY FORMULA,+ HE SAID.--BERNAMA1620/HM