

MAHATHIR-WAN NAJIB

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(P)

PETALING JAYA, A U G . 25 (BERNAMA)--DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD WANTS ALL PARTIES TO STOP MAKING STATEMENTS ON THE ALLEGEDLY SEDITIOUS REMARKS MADE BY MP FOR PASIRPUTIH, WAN NAJIB WAN MOHAMAD, IN PARLIAMENT ON JULY 24.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID HE REGARDED THE MATTER AS CLOSED AND WANTED EVERYONE TO ABIDE BY HIS ADVICE.

HE SAID HE HAD SPOKEN TO WAN NAJIB ON THE SPEECH HE MADE WHICH WAS TERMED AS DEROGATORY TO THE INDIAN COMMUNITY.

+HE (WAN NAJIB) IS SORRY THAT PEOPLE SHOULD REACT THAT-WAY TO WHAT HE SAID IN PARLIAMENT

+IN THE HEAT OF A DEBATE, WE SAY ALL KINDS OF THINGS. WE HAVE MADE OUR POINT, PEOPLE HAVE MADE THEIR COMMENTS, THAT IS ALL THERE IS TO IT... IN FACT THAT SHOULD BE ENOUGH, + HE ADDED AFTER (OPENING THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE KOOP BERSATU AT SUBANG VIEW HOTEL NEAR HERE. --MORE

MAHATHIR-WAN NAJIB 2 PETALING JAYA

CALLING ON THE PRESS TO STOP PLAYING UP THE ISSUE, DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID TO THE LAUGHTER OF THE REPORTERS: + YOU ALL EXIST ON CONTROVERSY. +

'THE CONTROVERSY AROSE FROM THE SAYING QUOTED BY WAN NAJIB WHICH OPPOSITION PARTIES CLAIMED WAS TANTAMOUNT TO A RACIAL SLUR.

WAN NAJIB CONTENDED THAT WHAT HE QUOTED WAS ONLY A MALAY PROVERB AND THIS WAS SUPPORTED BY THE-ACTING SPEAKER, ENCIK SHAMSURI SALLEH, WHO RULED THE REMARK PERMISSIBLE AS IT WAS AN OLD PROVERB FOUND IN MALAY LITERATURE,
--BERNAMA