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MAHATHIR  
FROM RACHMANNORDIN

PHILADELPHIA 9 OCT. 10 (BERNAMA) -- DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMAD HAS REMINDED MALAYSIAN STUDENTS NOT TO TAKE LIGHTLY THE COMMUNISTS' DESIRE TO FORCIBLY TAKE OVER THE COUNTRY BY CAPITALISING ON THE CURRENT CONFUSION AMONG THEM REGARDING THE ISLAMIC RELIGION. THE PRIME MINISTER DISCLOSED THAT THE COMMUNISTS' LATEST TACTIC WAS TO PROJECT THE PICTURE THAT THEIR IDEOLOGY WAS COMPATIBLE WITH ISLAM.

SPEAKING TO ABOUT 30 MALAYSIAN STUDENTS HERE, HE SAID HE HAD SEEN A VIDEO TAPE TRYING TO DEPICT THAT THE COMMUNISTS ALSO OBSERVED THE FIVE TIMES DAILY PRAYERS LIKE THE MUSLIMS.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR, WHO IS ON A SIX-DAY VISIT TO THE UNITED STATES, ALSO BRIEFED THE STUDENTS ON THE POLITICAL, SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS BACK HOME.

HE TOLD THEM THAT ANTI-NATIONAL ELEMENTS HAD EVEN TRIED TO HAKE USE OF RELIGIOUS HATTERS TO INSTIGATE MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES TO MUTINY.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID HE WAS NOT APOLOGISING FOR THE ARREST OF THESE ELEMENTS UNDER THE INTERNAL SECURITY ACT FOR INSTIGATING SOLDIERS DURING CERAMAHS SPONSORED AND FINANCED BY CERTAIN OPPOSITION QUARTERS..

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR ALSO SAID THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAD NO DESIRE TO CREATE A SYSTEM OF PAYING PEOPLE FOR NOT WORKING.

HE TOLD THEM THAT ANYONE WHO WANTED INCOME MUST WORK FOR IT. --  
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MAHATHIR 3 PHILADELPHIA

THE PRIME MINISTER ALSO DESCRIBED AS UNTRUSTWORTHY THOSE STUDENTS WHO WASTED THE OPPORTUNITY TO ACQUIRE KNOWLEDGE ABROAD.

THE PURPOSE OF SENDING THEM ABROAD TO STUDY WAS THAT ON THEIR RETURN THEY COULD HELP TO IMPROVE THEIR COMMUNITY, HE ADDED.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR ALSO SAID THAT THE CHOICE OF ENGLISH, FRENCH OR JAPANESE AS THE MEDIUM OF INSTRUCTION FOR THE PROPOSED PREPARATORY UNIVERSITY COLLEGES DID NOT MEAN THAT THE GOVERNMENT WAS NEGLECTING BAHASA MALAYSIA,

HE SAID IT WAS ONLY LOGICAL THAT IF NOW MORE THAN 50,000 MALAYSIAN STUDENTS COULD USE THESE MEDIA OF INSTRUCTION TO ACQUIRE KNOWLEDGE ABROAD, THE SAME COULD BE USED TO TRAIN STUDENTS LOCALLY, THUS CUTTING DOWN ON INVISIBLES EXPENDITURE..

PRESENT AT THE MEETING WERE DATUK SERI DATIN PADUKA DR. SITI HASMAH AND THE MALAYSIAN AMBASSADOR TO THE U.S., DATUK LIEW SIP HON.  
-- BERNAMA.