

0616

U E442 DEE  
UMNO  
BM

85

9

KUALA LUMPUR, AUG 18 (BERNAMA) --- DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD TOLD A GATHERING OF UMNO MEMBERS AND INFORMATION AGENCY OFFICERS HERE TODAY THAT THE MCA CRISIS IS NO LONGER CONFINED TO THAT PARTY BUT HAS BECOME A PARTISAN NASIONAL PROBLEM.

UMNO SECRETARY-GENERAL DATUK SERI SANUSI JUNID SAID DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR, WHO IS ALSO BN CHAIRMAN, HAD STRESSED THAT THE BN NEEDED A STRONG AND UNITED MCA TO FACE THE NEXT GENERAL ELECTION.

ABOUT 1,800 UMNO DIVISIONAL MEMBERS AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT (KEMAS) AND SPECIAL INFORMATION OFFICERS WERE BRIEFED BY THE PRIME MINISTER ON CURRENT NATIONAL EVENTS, INCLUDING THE MCA CRISIS AND THE CIVIL SERVANTS' PAY CLAIM.

DATUK SERI SANUSI TOLD REPORTERS AFTER THE MEETING THAT DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR HAD NOT MADE ANY PROPOSAL FOR THE SETTLEMENT OF THE MCA CRISIS AS THAT WOULD BE TANTAMOUNT TO INTERFERING IN THE MCA'S AFFAIRS.

HOWEVER, DATUK SERI SANUSI SAID, THE ASSEMBLAGE HAD EXPRESSED ITS CONCERN OVER THE POSSIBLE NEGATIVE EFFECTS IF THE CRISIS WAS PROLONGED. -- MORE  
1539MST 18 08 85

UMNO 2 KUALA LUMPUR

ON THE THREE-MONTH GRACE PERIOD GIVEN THE MCA TO RESOLVE ITS PROBLEM, DATUK SERI SANUSI QUOTED THE PRIME MINISTER AS SAYING THAT THE TIME-FRAME WAS NECESSARY TO ALLOW THE +WOUNDS IN THE PARTY TO HEAL.+

DATUK SERI SANUSI SAID THE ASSEMBLAGE DID NOT ASK WHY DATUK DR NEO YEE PAN HAD HIS SERVICES TERMINATED AS HOUSING AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT MINISTER.

HE SAID THEY BELIEVED THE SETTLEMENT OF THE MCA CRISIS WAS GENERALLY MORE IMPORTANT TO THE FUTURE WELLBEING OF THE BN THAN THE EFFECTS OF DATUK DR NEO'S DEPARTURE FROM THE CABINET.

ON TODAY'S MEETING, THE THIRD SUCH THIS YEAR, DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR URGED THOSE PRESENT TO INFORM THE PEOPLE OF THE DEVELOPMENTS AND TO HELP COUNTER THE RUMOURS THAT WERE BEING SPREAD AMONG THE PEOPLE.

DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER DATUK MUSA HITAM AND UMNO CABINET MINISTERS WEPE PRESENT. -- BERNAMA  
1548MST 18 08 85