

0038

U E977 DEE

MAHATHIR-ASSEMBLY (CORRECTED REPETITION)

BM

85

KUALA LUMPUR, SEPT 27/ (BERNAMA) -- UMNO PRESIDENT DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR SAID TODAY THE ON-GOING UMNO GENERAL ASSEMBLY AT THE UMNO COMPLEX HERE SO FAR WAS NOT AS LIVELY AS THOSE OF PREVIOUS YEARS BECAUSE MOST OF THE DELEGATES SHARED THE GOVERNMENT'S VIEWS ON VARIOUS ISSUES.

BECAUSE OF THE CONSENSUS IN OPINION, THE DELEGATES SEEMED TO BE SHORT OF ISSUES TO CRITICISE AND QUESTION, HE SAID.

ANOTHER REASON COULD BE THAT THE ASSEMBLY WAS NOT HAVING AN ELECTION OF LEADERS THIS TIME ROUND.

IN A LIGHTER VEIN, HE TOLD REPORTERS IT COULD ALSO BE DUE TO THE FACT THAT THE DELEGATES HAD NOT GOT USED TO THE NEW BUILDING AND THAT THE AIR-CONDITIONING HAD +COOLED DOWN THE SITUATION.+

ON HIS POLICY SPEECH WHICH WAS DESCRIBED BY ALL THE DELEGATES AS FIRM AND OPEN, HE SAID: +THINGS THAT NEED TO BE EXPOSED OPENLY, I HAVE TO BE FRANK.+ -- BERNAMA