

D893

U E871 AAE  
MAHATHIR-BERJAYA  
BM

1985  
LAHAD DATU, FEB 17 (BERNAMA) -- DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD TODAY OPENLY CRITICISED THOSE WHO OPPOSED THE BERJAYA PARTY IN SABAH AND SAID THEY BELONGED TO EXTREMIST GROUPS.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THAT AT ONE TIME BERJAYA HAD BEEN ACCUSED OF OPPOSING ISLAM AND THAT IT WAS NOW BEING CHARGED WITH BEING ANTI-NON MUSLIMS.

SUCH ACCUSATIONS WERE DANGEROUS AND THAT IF THESE PEOPLE WERE ALLOWED TO CARRY ON MAKING THE ALLEGATIONS THE HARMONY ENJOYED BY THE PEOPLE OF SABAH WHO BELONGED TO VARIOUS RACES AND RELIGIONS WOULD BE ADVERSELY AFFECTED, HE SAID WHEN ADDRESSING COMMUNITY LEADERS AT THE DEWAN TUN DATU MUSTAPHA HERE.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID THE CHARGES THAT THE BERJAYA GOVERNMENT WAS ANTI-ISLAM WERE BASELESS AS THE STATE GOVERNMENT HAD GIVEN DUE CONSIDERATION TO THE PROPOGATION OF THE RELIGION IN THE STATE.

THIS, ON THE OTHER HAND, HAD CAUSED CERTAIN PEOPLE TO BLAME THE GOVERNMENT FOR WHAT THEY CLAIMED TO BE A NEGLECT OF THE NON-MUSLIM COMMUNITIES, HE SAID. -- MORE  
2013MST 17 02 85

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U E872 AAE  
MAHATHIR-BERJAYA 2 LAHAD DATU

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID THE STATE GOVERNMENT IMPLEMENTED ITS POLICIES WITH THE INTERESTS OF ALL THE PEOPLE, BOTH MUSLIMS AND NON-MUSLIMS, IN MIND.

HE SAID ISLAM WAS A RELIGION IN MODERATION AND THAT ACTIONS THAT CAUSED CONFLICTS WERE CONTRARY TO THE TEACHINGS OF THE RELIGION.

HE ALSO SAID THAT BERJAYA WAS THE ONLY MULTI-RACIAL PARTY IN THE COUNTRY AND THAT IT HAD PROVEN ITS CAPABILITY IN EVOLVING A WAY OF LIFE AMONG PEOPLE WHO BELONGED TO VARIOUS RACES AND RELIGIONS.

ALTHOUGH THERE EXISTED SEVERAL OTHER PARTIES THAT CLAIMED TO BE MULTI-RACIAL, IT WAS CLEAR THAT THE MEMBERSHIP OF THESE PARTIES COMPRISED MAINLY OF ONE RACE, HE SAID.

+I WOULD LIKE TO SAY SYABAS (WELL DONE) TO BERJAYA FOR HAVING SUCCEEDED IN CREATING SUCH A CONDUCIVE ATMOSPHERE,+ HE SAID TO THE APPLAUSE OF ABOUT 1,000 PEOPLE WHO HAD CRAMMED INTO THE HALL. -- MORE  
2030MST 17 02 85

D903

U E874 AAE  
MAHATHIR-BERJAYA 3 LAHAD DATU

HE SAID THAT THE ATMOSPHERE WAS FOR THE GOOD AS IT WOULD ENSURE PEACE AND ORDER THAT WOULD ALLOW FOR SMOOTH IMPLEMENTATION OF DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES.

+IT IS NECESSARY FOR THE PEOPLE TO MAINTAIN THIS SITUATION,+ HE STRESSED.

THE PRIME MINISTER CALLED ON THE PEOPLE OF SABAH TO REJECT ANY FORM OF EXTREMISM THAT COULD THREATEN PEACE, ORDER AND HARMONY.

HE SAID THAT SINCE BERJAYA CAME TO POWER, IT HAD BROUGHT ABOUT MANY CHANGES AND THAT HE WAS SATISFIED WITH THE DEVELOPMENT ACHIEVED BY THE STATE.

SABAH'S DEVELOPMENT SUCCESS HAD ATTRACTED THE ATTENTION OF PEOPLE NOT ONLY IN THE OTHER STATES OF MALAYSIA BUT ALSO IN NEIGHBOURING COUNTRIES LIKE INDONESIA AND THE PHILIPPINES WHO HE SAID HAD ALSO CONTRIBUTED TO ITS DEVELOPMENT. -- MORE  
2042MST 17 02 85

U E874 AAE  
MAHATHIR-BERJAYA 4 LAHAD DATU

HE PRAISED THE STATE GOVERNMENT FOR ITS FAR-SIGHTEDNESS IN DRAWING UP DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS.

AS EXAMPLES, HE CITED THE CULTIVATION OF RATTAN ON A COMMERCIAL SCALE AND THE JELUTUNG TIMBER ESTATE.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID THE JELUTUNG TIMBER ESTATE, COVERING 2,000 HECTARES OF THE 14,000-HECTARE JEROCO PLANTATION COMPLEX, 100 KM FROM HERE, WOULD ONLY PRODUCE YIELD 50 TO 60 YEARS FROM NOW. THIS SHOWED THE FAR-SIGHTEDNESS OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT, HE ADDED.

THE PRIME MINISTER GAVE AN ASSURANCE THAT THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT WOULD CONTINUE TO GIVE SERIOUS ATTENTION TO DEVELOPMENT IN SABAH, PARTICULARLY IN THE PROVISION OF INFRASTRUCTURE FACILITIES.

AS OF THIS YEAR, THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT HAD TAKEN OVER THE RESPONSIBILITY OF BUILDING AND MAINTAINING MANY OF THE MAIN ROADS IN SABAH, INCLUDING THE SANDAKAN-LAHAD DATU HIGHWAY AND THE BRIDGES ALONG IT. -- MORE

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U E878 AAE  
MAHATHIR-BERJAYA 5 LAHAD DATU

HE ADDED, HOWEVER, THAT THIS WOULD TAKE TIME AS A THOROUGH STUDY HAD TO BE MADE BECAUSE THE HIGHWAY PASSED THROUGH MANY LOW-LYING AREAS THAT WERE PRONE TO FLOODS.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR, ACCOMPANIED BY SABAH CHIEF MINISTER DATUK HARRIS SALLEH, LATER MADE A SURPRISE VISIT TO THE DISTRICT HOSPITAL NEARBY.

THIS EVENING, THE PRIME MINISTER ARRIVED IN THE FEDERAL TERRITORY OF LABUAN AFTER ENDING A TWO-DAY VISIT TO SABAH.

HE WAS GREETED ON ARRIVAL BY MINISTER IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S DEPARTMENT, DATUK DR JAMES ONGKILI, DEPUTY FEDERAL TERRITORY MINISTER ENCİK AHMAD SHAH TAMBAKAU, AND SEVERAL SABAH MINISTERS. -- BERNAMA

2104MST 17 02 85