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B E809 AAE  
SENATE-MAHATHIR  
BM

85  
KUALA LUMPUR, DEC 17 (BERNAMA) -- (DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD)  
STRESSED TODAY THAT NATIONAL UNITY MAY NOT BE FULLY ACHIEVED AS LONG  
AS THERE ARE INDIVIDUALS OR GROUPS STILL NOT PLACING NATIONAL  
INTERESTS ABOVE COMMUNAL, PERSONAL OR THEIR OWN POLITICAL INTERESTS.

HE TOLD SEN HAJI ABDUL HAMID LATIF IN THE DEWAN NEGARA HERE IT  
WAS NOT DENIED THAT THERE WERE STILL SHORTCOMINGS THAT COULD BE  
IMPROVED FROM THE ASPECT OF NATIONAL UNITY, INCLUDING IN THE MUSLIM  
COMMUNITY.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID LACK OF UNITY AMONG MUSLIMS WAS BECAUSE  
OF THE EXISTENCE OF A GROUP TRYING TO INSTIGATE THE PEOPLE INTO  
OPPOSING GOVERNMENT EFFORTS TO IMPROVE RELATIONS WITH THE PEOPLE.

+THERE ARE ALSO SOME AMONG THE MUSLIMS PURPOSELY DENIGRATING  
GOVERNMENT EFFORTS TO ENHANCE THE POSITION OF ISLAM SO AS TO  
SEPARATE MUSLIMS SUPPORTING THE GOVERNMENT FROM OTHER MUSLIMS,+ HE  
ADDED.

AMONG THEM, HE ADDED, WERE THOSE WHO LABELLED AS +KAFIR+  
(INFIDEL) HALF THE MUSLIM POPULATION SO THEY COULD ALIENATE THESE  
PEOPLE.

+WITH THIS, THE MUSLIMS HAVE NOW BECOME DIVIDED.+ -- MORE  
1631MST 17 12 85

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B E824 AAE  
SENATE-MAHATHIR 2 KUALA LUMPUR

HE ALSO SAID THE NUMBER OF POLITICAL PARTIES BY ITSELF WAS NOT  
THE CAUSE OF THE DIFFICULTY IN EVOLVING UNITY AMONG THE PEOPLE BUT  
THE ATTITUDE OF THE LEADERSHIP WAS.

TO A SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION FROM SEN HAJI SHUAIB LAZIM, THE  
PRIME MINISTER SAID IT WAS TRUE THE CRAZE FOR POWER BY OPPOSITION  
PARTIES WAS THE CAUSE OF THE SPLIT AMONG THE PEOPLE.

+HOWEVER, SO FAR, THEIR SPEECHES OR ACTION HAVE NOT REACHED A  
STAGE FOR US TO BAN THE PARTIES INVOLVED,+ HE SAID IN ANSWER TO A  
QUESTION FROM SEN DATUK KAMARUZAMAN AHMAD.

HE SAID THE GOVERNMENT WOULD CONTINUE WITH ITS EFFORTS TO FOSTER  
UNITY AMONG THE PEOPLE BY TRYING TO INCULCATE NOBLE VALUES IN  
ACCORDANCE WITH ISLAMIC REQUIREMENTS.

THE GOVERNMENT WOULD ALSO CONTINUE TO DEVELOP EDUCATION AND THE  
USE OF THE NATIONAL LANGUAGE WITHOUT RESTRICTING THE USE OF OTHER  
LANGUAGES, TO MOULD A NATIONAL CULTURE, GATHER THE VARIOUS LANGUAGE  
SCHOOLS IN ONE CAMPUS AND TO PROCEED WITH OTHER MEASURES SUITABLE  
FOR BRINGING ABOUT UNITY, HE ADDED. -- MORE

1774MST 17 12 85

B 2027 AAC  
SENATE-MAHATHIR 3 KUALA LUMPUR

TO A QUESTION FROM SEN AHMAD OTHMAN, HE SAID THAT FOR THE MOMENT THE GOVERNMENT DID NOT PROPOSE TO SET UP AN INDUSTRY TO BUILD SMALL AIRCRAFT AND HELICOPTERS.

HOWEVER, THE GOVERNMENT HAD PROVIDED INCENTIVES TO A GROUP INTERESTED IN SETTING UP A BODY TO BUY COMPONENTS AND ASSEMBLE AEROPLANES AND SMALL HELICOPTERS.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID SUCH INCENTIVES WOULD BRING ABOUT SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY RELATING TO THE DESIGN, ASSEMBLY AND MANUFACTURE OF AEROPLANES.

HE SAID EXPERIENCE COULD ALSO BE GAINED IN THE USE OF NEW MATERIALS LIKE PLASTIC AND CARBON FIBRE COMPOSITES WHICH COULD NOT ONLY BE USED FOR AEROPLANES BUT ALSO FOR OTHER MANUFACTURED GOODS.

HE SAID THAT ALTHOUGH THE PRODUCTION OF THE NATIONAL CAR, THE PROTON SAGA, HAD INCREASED KNOWLEDGE ON METAL TECHNOLOGY AND MACHINERY USEFUL IN THE MANUFACTURE OF AEROPLANES, THERE WERE MANY DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE TWO FIELDS

+AS SUCH, FOR THE TIME BEING, WE DO NOT PROPOSE TO ENTER THE FIELD OF AEROPLANE MANUFACTURE BUT WILL INSTEAD CONCENTRATE ON SERVICING AND REPAIRS AND THE PRODUCTION OF SEVERAL AVIONICS TYPES WITHIN OUR CAPABILITY,+ HE ADDED. -- BERNAMA

1757MST 17 12 85