

B E516 AAE
MAHATHIR-ASSEMBLY
BM

KUALA LUMPUR, SEPT 20 (BERNAMA) -- DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR

MOHAMAD SAID TODAY THAT THE MODERATE ATTITUDE OF UMNO, WHICH TAKES INTO ACCOUNT THE COUNTRY'S MULTI-RACIAL CHARACTER, WILL ENABLE IT TO CONTINUE TO LEAD THE BARISAN NASIONAL AND HEAD THE GOVERNMENT.

HE HOPED THAT OTHER QUARTERS IN THE COUNTRY WOULD TAKE NOTE OF UMNO'S MODERATION.

SPEAKING TO REPORTERS AFTER THE CLOSING OF THE 37TH UMNO GENERAL ASSEMBLY, THE PRIME MINISTER AND UMNO PRESIDENT SAID THAT THOUGH UMNO ATTAINED OUTSTANDING SUCCESS IN THE LAST GENERAL ELECTION, THE PARTY WOULD CONTINUE TO ADOPT AN ATTITUDE OF MODERATION AND BE REALISTIC TO THE SITUATION PREVAILING IN THE COUNTRY.

HE SAID THOUGH THE RESOLUTIONS Tabled BY THE DELEGATES SHOWED FIRMNESS, THEY STILL HELD MODERATE VIEWS.

THEY ALSO CLEARLY SUPPORTED THE ACTION TAKEN BY THE UMNO SUPREME COUNCIL AND THE GOVERNMENT, HE SAID. -- MORE

2144MST 20 09 86

U E519 AAE
MAHATHIR-ASSEMBLY 2 KUALA LUMPUR

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THAT UMNO SUPPORTED THE BN AND THE GOVERNMENT'S POLICY.

HE ALSO STRESSED THAT COOPERATION AMONG THE VARIOUS COMMUNITIES WAS VITAL TO MAINTAIN STABILITY IN THE COUNTRY.

ON THE INCREASED NUMBER OF RESOLUTIONS BROUGHT UP AT THIS ASSEMBLY SESSION, HE SAID MOST OF THEM HAD BEEN IMPLEMENTED WHEREVER POSSIBLE.

HE SAID THE DELEGATES HAD URGED THE GOVERNMENT TO FULFIL ITS PLEDGES AND ADDED THAT THE GOVERNMENT AIMED TO DO THIS.

HOWEVER, THE PROBLEM WAS THAT THERE WERE UNEXPECTED FACTORS AND THESE HAD RESULTED IN THE GOVERNMENT NOT BEING ABLE TO FULFIL ITS PLEDGES FULLY, HE SAID. -- MORE

2207MST 20 09 86

U E520 AAE
MAHATHIR-ASSEMBLY 3 KUALA LUMPUR

ON THE NEW ECONOMIC POLICY (NEP), THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THE NAME OF THE POLICY WAS NOT IMPORTANT.

WHAT WAS IMPORTANT WAS THAT ITS OBJECTIVES -- ERADICATION OF POVERTY IRRESPECTIVE OF RACE AND RESTRUCTURING OF SOCIETY -- SHOULD BE CONTINUED.

THE PRIME MINISTER WAS ALSO ASKED WHY HE AND HIS DEPUTY, DATUK MUSA HITAM, DID NOT GIVE ANY EXPLANATION ABOUT WHAT SAID TO BE A +RELATIONSHIP CRISIS+ BETWEEN THEM.

HE SAID HE DID NOT EXPLAIN SO AS +TO PUT THE MATTER TO REST+.

ANYONE COULD DRAW HIS OWN CONCLUSIONS ABOUT THE MATTER, HE ADDED.

+DATUK MUSA HIMSELF HAS STATED HIS VIEWS ON THE MATTER DURING HIS WINDING UP SPEECH TO THE ASSEMBLY,+ THE PRIME MINISTER SAID. -- MORE

2208MST 20 09 86

U E523 AAE
MAHATHIR-ASSEMBLY 4 KUALA LUMPUR

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID WHILE LEADERS COME AND GO, UMNO WOULD REMAIN TO CONTINUE WITH THE STRUGGLE.

DATUK MUSA, WHO WAS SEATED BESIDE HIM DURING THE PRESS CONFERENCE, AGREED WITH THE PRIME MINISTER ON THIS POINT.

+NO UMNO LEADER IS PERMANENT. WHETHER IT IS ME, DATUK MUSA OR DATUK SERI SANUSI -- BUT UMNO WILL CONTINUE TO BE THERE,+ DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID.

ON THE COMPLAINT BY AN UMNO YOUTH DELEGATE THAT HE WAS NOT +DEFENDED+ BY ANY LEADER, THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THAT THE LEADERSHIP WOULD STRIVE TO HELP AS FAR AS POSSIBLE PEOPLE WHO FACED SUCH PROBLEMS.

THE DELEGATE HAD SAID WHEN TABLING THE RESOLUTION ON EDUCATION YESTERDAY THAT HE WAS DROPPED FROM THE STATE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL AND +SHOT DOWN+ FOR SPEAKING UP FOR THE LEADERSHIP'S POLICIES BUT NO QUARTER DEFENDED HIM. -- MORE
2216MST 20 09 86

U E525 AAE
MAHATHIR-ASSEMBLY 5 KUALA LUMPUR

ON THE COMMONWEALTH, THE PRIME MINISTER SAID MALAYSIA WAS NOT STUDYING ITS WITHDRAWAL FROM THE BODY, BUT STUDYING THE BENEFITS DERIVED FROM BEING A MEMBER.

HE SAID THAT MORE AND MORE COUNTRIES WHICH HAD LONG BEEN IN THE COMMONWEALTH WERE ATTEMPTING TO TURN THEIR BACKS ON IT IN FAVOUR OF OTHER ORGANISATIONS.

+IF WE DON'T GET ANY BENEFITS FROM IT, WE SHOULD STUDY THE REASONS WHY WE ARE IN THE ORGANISATION,+ HE SAID. -- BERNAMA
2219MST 20 09 86