

B E264 AAE

MAHATHIR-TV

BM

86
8
KUALA LUMPUR, OCT 14 (BERNAMA) -- DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD SAID TODAY LIVE TELEVISION COVERAGE OF PARLIAMENTARY PROCEEDINGS CANNOT BE HELD FOR THE TIME BEING TO SAFEGUARD HARMONY AND UNITY AMONG THE PEOPLE OF THE VARIOUS RACES.

HE SAID THE PEOPLE OF THE VARIOUS RACES IN THIS COUNTRY WERE NOT READY FOR SUCH A MOVE.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THAT WHAT WAS SAID IN PARLIAMENT SOMETIMES TOUCHED ON RACIAL MATTERS WHICH WERE NOT PLEASANT TO HEAR AND WHICH COULD HURT THE FEELINGS OF THE PEOPLE IF TELECAST.

THIS COULD RESULT IN UNEASINESS AMONG THE VARIOUS RACES, HE TOLD REPORTERS AT PARLIAMENT HOUSE WHEN ASKED TO COMMENT ON A PROPOSAL BY SEVERAL QUARTERS THAT PARLIAMENT SITTINGS BE COVERED LIVE.

HE SAID THERE WERE MPS WHO WERE LIKELY TO USE THE TELEVISION COVERAGE FOR THEIR OWN POLITICAL ENDS BY RAISING RACIAL ISSUES.

THIS WILL NOT CONTRIBUTE TO NATIONAL UNITY, HE ADDED. --

BERNAMA

1634MST 14 10 86