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B E350 AAE

LEAD MAHATHIR-FORMULA R'R'R'

BM

KOTA KINABALU, MARCH 24<sup>86</sup> (BERNAMA) -- THE THREE MAIN PARTIES IN SABAH -- PARTI BERSATU SABAH, USNO AND BERJAYA -- HAVE AGREED IN PRINCIPLE TO A FORMULA FOR COOPERATION WHICH COULD BE A SOLUTION TO THE PROBLEM IN SABAH.

PRIME MINISTER DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD SAID THE FORMULA WAS AMONG SEVERAL MATTERS DISCUSSED IN FRANK AND OPEN TALKS HE HAD WITH LEADERS OF THE THREE PARTIES TODAY.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR TOLD A PRESS CONFERENCE AT THE INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT HERE THIS EVENING THAT HE WAS CONFIDENT THAT THE SOLUTION WOULD LEAD TO FUTURE POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC STABILITY IN THE STATE.

HE HAD HAD SEPARATE DISCUSSIONS WITH CHIEF MINISTER AND PBS PRESIDENT DATUK JOSEPH PAIRIN KITINGAN, USNO PRESIDENT TUN DATU MUSTAPHA HARUN AND BERJAYA PRESIDENT DATUK HAJI MOHAMED NOOR MANSOOR WHICH LASTED THREE HOURS AT A HOTEL HERE.

BARISAN NASIONAL SECRETARY-GENERAL ENCIK ABDUL GHAFAR BABA WAS PRESENT AT THE DISCUSSIONS. -- MORE  
1823MST 24 03 86

B E352 AAE

LEAD MAHATHIR-FORMULA 2 KOTA KINABALU R'R'R'

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR WAS HOWEVER UNABLE TO GIVE DETAILS OF THE FORMULA BECAUSE IT HAD FIRST TO BE DISCUSSED BY THE LEADERS OF THE PARTIES INVOLVED TO OBTAIN THEIR AGREEMENT.

+IT IS NOT FITTING FOR ME TO PROCLAIM IT NOW BECAUSE MY FELLOW LEADERS OF THE RESPECTIVE PARTIES HAVE NOT BEEN NOTIFIED AND HAVE NOT DISCUSSED IT TO COME TO A DECISION,+ HE SAID.

HE SAID THE DISCUSSIONS HAD LED TO A FORMULA BEING DRAWN UP WHICH INVOLVED ALL THE PARTIES TO OVERCOME THE PROBLEM IN SABAH.

HE HOPED THAT THIS WOULD BE FOLLOWED BY A MEETING IN KUALA LUMPUR AMONG THE THREE PARTIES THIS WEEK AFTER EACH HAD MADE A DECISION.

HE SAID THAT AFTER THAT THE DISCUSSIONS WOULD BE CONDUCTED UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE BARISAN NASIONAL WHEREBY THE PBS AND USNO APPLICATIONS TO JOIN THE BN WOULD PROBABLY BE SETTLED. -- MORE  
1834MST 24 03 86

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LEAD MAHATHIR-FORMULA 3 KOTA KINABALU

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID ONE THING THAT WAS CLEAR WAS THAT DATUK PAIRIN WOULD CONTINUE TO BE SABAH CHIEF MINISTER AND IN THIS RESPECT ALL PARTIES MUST SACRIFICE FOR THE FUTURE STABILITY.

HE SAID THAT IN IMPLEMENTING THE FORMULA ALL THE PARTIES MUST AGREE TO COOPERATE AND COMPROMISE BASED ON POLITICAL AGREEMENT AND SETTLEMENT.

HE ADDED THAT HE COULD NOT SAY WHETHER THE SUCCESS IN ARRIVING AT THE FORMULA WAS THE EFFORT OF THE BARISAN NASIONAL, ESPECIALLY UMNO WHICH HAD SUGGESTED IT AT ITS SUPREME COUNCIL MEETING YESTERDAY.

+I COME AS PRIME MINISTER WHO IS ALSO RESPONSIBLE FOR THE SECURITY OF THE COUNTRY AND AT THE SAME TIME I AM ALSO BARISAN NASIONAL CHAIRMAN,+ HE SAID IN REPLY TO A QUESTION.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID THAT AFTER AGREEMENT HAD BEEN REACHED, DETAILS OF THE FORM OF COOPERATION WOULD BE DISCUSSED BY THE THREE PARTIES.

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LEAD MAHATHIR-FORMULA 4 KOTA KINABALU

HE SAID AMONG THE DETAILS WAS THE POSSIBILITY THAT THE SOLUTION WAS CONDITIONAL UPON THE PARTIES DROPPING ALL CLAIMS IN PENDING COURT CASES.

HOWEVER, DATUK SER DR MAHATHIR SAID NO ONE WOULD BE IMPOSING ANY CONDITIONS FOR A SETTLEMENT.

+WE HAVE DECIDED THAT EACH PARTY WILL HAVE EQUITABLE RIGHTS IN SABAH, + HE ADDED.

ALSO PRESENT AT THE PRESS CONFERENCE WERE DATUK PAIRIN, ENCIK GHAFAR, HOME AFFAIRS MINISTRY SECRETARY-GENERAL DATUK AZIZAN ZAINAL ABIDIN AND INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF POLICE TAN SRI HANIFF OMAR. --  
BERNAMA

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