

D809

B E427 AAE
PARLIAMENT-MAHATHIR (MEMALI)
BM

KUALA LUMPUR, MARCH 19/ (BERNAMA) -- PRIME MINISTER DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD TOLD THE DEWAN RAKYAT TODAY THAT THE POLICE HAD TO TAKE STERN ACTION DURING THE MEMALI INCIDENT, OTHERWISE OTHER GROUPS MIGHT ALSO WANT TO CHALLENGE THEM.

REPLYING TO POINTS RAISED DURING THE DEBATE ON THE ROYAL ADDRESS, HE SAID THAT IF THE POLICE WERE NOT FREE TO ACT FOR FEAR OF INJURING PEOPLE, THERE WOULD BE GROUPS WHICH WOULD FEEL THAT IF THEY OPPOSED THE POLICE IN LARGE NUMBERS, THE POLICE WOULD BE ACT AGAINST THEM.

IF THE POLICE WERE TO FEEL THAT WHATEVER ACTIONS THEY TOOK WOULD BE WRONG AND WERE AFRAID THAT THEY WOULD BE LABELLED AS STERN, THEN THEY WOULD NO LONGER BE EFFECTIVE AS SECURITY AGENTS, HE SAID.

+THEN PEOPLE IN CERTAIN PLACES WILL NO LONGER FEEL SAFE. IN SUCH A SITUATION, GANGSTERS MIGHT FEEL THAT THEY WERE FREE TO DO AS THEY WANTED LIKE IN THE OLDEN DAYS.+

+THIS IS THE DANGER OF THE MEMALI INCIDENT. BAD EXAMPLE HAS BEEN SHOWN,+ THE PRIME MINISTER SAID. -- MORE
1936MST 19 03 86

D825

B E435 AAE
PARLIAMENT-MAHATHIR (MEMALI) 2 KUALA LUMPUR

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID HE FEARED THAT IF POLICE PERSONNEL WHO WERE PREPARED TO DIE TO ENSURE THE PEOPLE'S SECURITY WERE NOT APPRECIATED, THEN THEIR MORALE WOULD BE WEAKENED.

+THANK GOD THIS HAS NOT HAPPENED. BUT WE CANNOT BE TOO CONFIDENT THAT THIS WILL NOT HAPPEN,+ HE SAID.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR BEGAN HIS REPLIES TO THE POINTS RAISED BY DRAWING THE ATTENTION OF THE HOUSE TO THE FACT THAT THE WHITE PAPER ON THE MEMALI INCIDENT DID NOT GET ITS RIGHTFUL ATTENTION FROM MPS WHO WERE MORE CONCERNED WITH THE BMF ISSUE.

HE SAID THAT, IN FACT, THE MEMALI INCIDENT WAS JUST AS BAD AS THE BMF SCANDAL.

+IF THE BMF SCANDAL IS A STORY OF CHEATING ON A BIG SCALE, THE MEMALI INCIDENT INVOLVED A CRIME OF A VERY SERIOUS NATURE IN THE COUNTRY,+ HE SAID. -- MORE
2004MST 19 03 86

D826

B E436 AAE
PARLIAMENT-MAHATHIR (MEMALI) 3 KUALA LUMPUR

THE FANATIC GROUP INVOLVED IN THE INCIDENT HAD ITS OWN PRIVATE ARMED GUARDS READY TO KILL AND THEIR WEAPONS INCLUDED MOLOTOV COCKTAILS AND POISON ARROWS, HE SAID.

THE GROUP ALSO USED THE ELDERLY AS WELL AS YOUNG WOMEN AND CHILDREN AS SHIELD FOR COWARDLY MEN, HE SAID.

+THEY DELUDED THEMSELVES INTO BELIEVING THAT THEY HAD SUPERNATURAL POWERS. THEY HAD BEEN TRAINED TO PROTECT THEMSELVES AGAINST VARIOUS WEAPONS USED BY THE POLICE,+ HE SAID.

HE SAID THAT IF THE POLICE HAD FAILED TO ACT FIRMLY DURING THE INCIDENT, THE POSSIBILITY WAS ALWAYS THERE THAT THEY WOULD BE CHALLENGED BY OTHER GROUPS ELSEWHERE. -- BERNAMA
2005MST 19 03 86

B E464 AAE
PARLIAMENT-MAHATHIR (MEMALI) 4 KUALA LUMPUR (REOPEN ITEM E436)

ON DEVIATIONIST TEACHINGS, THE PRIME MINISTER SAID SOME OF SUCH TEACHINGS WERE DISSEMINATED BY FOREIGNERS.

IT WAS DIFFICULT TO CHECK THEIR ENTRY BECAUSE THEY ENTERED THE COUNTRY NOT AS MISSIONARIES, HE SAID.

STILL, STATE RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS DEPARTMENTS HAD ADEQUATE POWERS TO CHECK SUCH TEACHINGS AND PROSECUTE THOSE INVOLVED IN IT, HE SAID.

+HOWEVER GROUPS WHICH GO FROM MOSQUE TO MOSQUE MAY NOT BE FOLLOWERS OF DEVIATIONIST TEACHINGS,+ THE PRIME MINISTER SAID. --

BERNAMA

2142MST 19 03 86