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MAHATHIR-FORMULA

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KUALA LUMPUR, MARCH 30 (BERNAMA) -- PRIME MINISTER DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD SAID TODAY HE WAS DISAPPOINTED WITH THE PARTI BERSATU SABAH (PBS) WHICH PLANS TO SUBMIT COUNTERPROPOSALS TO THE FORMULA TO END THE POLITICAL CRISIS IN SABAH.

+WE HAD REACHED AN AGREEMENT WHEN I VISITED SABAH RECENTLY AND I WAS OF THE OPINION THAT WITH THE AGREEMENT ALL PROBLEMS WOULD BE SOLVED,+ HE SAID.

+BUT UNFORTUNATELY, WHILE WE ARE PREPARING TO SIGN THE AGREEMENT, THE PBS IS SUBMITTING OTHER VIEWS,+ HE SAID IN A PRESS CONFERENCE AFTER SEPARATE CLOSED-DOOR MEETINGS WITH THE SELANGOR UMNO DIVISIONAL COMMITTEES AND THE STATE BARISAN NASIONAL COMMITTEE AT BANGUNAN RISDA HERE.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID HE DID NOT KNOW THE PBS VIEWS ON THE FORMULA.

+I HAVE NOT RECEIVED ANY REPORT FROM PBS SECRETARY-GENERAL ENCIK JOSEPH KURUP ON THE PARTY'S STAND REGARDING THE ORIGINAL FORMULA,+ HE ADDED.

+I CANNOT SAY ANYTHING BECAUSE WE HAVE REPEATEDLY SUBMITTED THE PROPOSALS BUT STILL ENCOUNTER PROBLEMS.+ -- MORE
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MAHATHIR-FORMULA 2 KUALA LUMPUR

ON THE APPOINTMENT OF A NEW DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER, HE SAID HE HAD STILL NOT THOUGHT ABOUT IT.

ON THE CABINET DECISION TO ACCEPT DATUK HUSA HITAM'S RESIGNATION AS DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND HOME MINISTER, HE SAID THE LETTER OF ACCEPTANCE OF THE RESIGNATION HAD BEEN SENT TO LONDON ON MARCH 28.

ASKED ABOUT THE DISCUSSIONS HE HAD TODAY, THE PRIME MINISTER SAID HE HAD EXPLAINED SEVERAL MATTERS THAT NEEDED EXPLAINING TO THE UMNO MEMBERS.

HE SAID HE WAS SATISFIED WITH THE UNITY AMONG THE BARISAN NASIONAL COMPONENT PARTIES IN SELANGOR, ESPECIALLY IN PREPARING FOR THE NEXT GENERAL ELECTION.

IN THE MEETING WITH THE STATE BN COMMITTEE MEMBERS HE DISCUSSED THE METHOD FOR ALLOCATION OF SEATS FOR THE GENERAL ELECTION BUT THE DATE HAD YET TO BE DETERMINED. -- BERNAMA
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