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MAHATHIR-DEPUTY

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KUALA LUMPUR, MAY 4 (BERNAMA) -- DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD TODAY DECLINED TO SAY WHEN A NEW DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER WILL BE APPOINTED OR WHETHER HE HAD AN AUDIENCE WITH THE YANG DI-PERTUAN AGONG THIS MORNING TO DISCUSS THE CANDIDATE TO SUCCEED DATUK MUSA HITAM.

+YOU CAN STILL SPECULATE ABOUT IT. IT IS QUITE ALL RIGHT BECAUSE YOU HAVE PLENTY OF TIME TO SPECULATE,+ HE TOLD REPORTERS WHO APPROACHED HIM AFTER HE OPENED THE NELAYAN FLOATING RESTAURANT HERE.

+THE ANNOUNCEMENT WILL COME SOME TIME I SUPPOSE BETWEEN NOW AND WHEN THE APPOINTMENT IS MADE,+ HE SAID; WHEN ASKED WHETHER THE ANNOUNCEMENT WOULD BE MADE SOON.

THE PRIME MINISTER, WHO APPEARED IN A JOVIAL MOOD, ALSO REFUSED TO CONFIRM WHETHER HE HAD AN AUDIENCE WITH THE YANG DI-PERTUAN AGONG THIS MORNING TO DISCUSS THE APPOINTMENT OF A NEW DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER.

+I MEET HIM ALWAYS. MAYBE WE DID DISCUSS ABOUT IT, WHY NOT?+

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR ALSO DECLINED TO COMMENT ON WHETHER UMNO WILL STILL CONTINUE HAVING THE MUZAKARAH (DISCUSSION) WITH PAS FOLLOWING A PAS STATEMENT THAT IT WOULD NOT CONTINUE ATTENDING THE MUZAKARAH BECAUSE IT HAD DOUBTS ABOUT THE SINCERITY OF UMNO. --
BERNAMA

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