

B E469 AAE
MAHATHIR-PROJECT 3 KUALA KUBU BAHARU R R R R R R R R R R

ON THE PROPOSAL THAT TOP UMNO LEADERS CONTESTING IN THE SUPREME COUNCIL ELECTIONS NEXT MONTH COME TO A COMPROMISE SO AS TO AVOID A SPLIT IN THE RANKS, HE SAID: +I DO NOT KNOW WHAT IS MEANT BY THE COMPROMISE.+

+DOES IT MEAN WE MUST HAVE TWO PARTY PRESIDENTS AND THREE DEPUTY PRESIDENTS?+ HE ASKED.

IF THERE WERE THREE DEPUTY PRESIDENTS, WHICH SHOULD SUCCEED THE PRESIDENT IF THE POST FELL VACANT? HE WONDERED.

AND WHEN UMNO HAD MORE THAN ONE DEPUTY PRESIDENT BECOMING DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER, OTHER COMPONENT PARTIES IN THE BARISAN NASIONAL WOULD ASK FOR THE SAME FOR THEMSELVES, HE SAID.

ASKED HIS VIEWS ON THE CAMPAIGNING FOR THE PARTY CENTRAL LEADERSHIP ELECTIONS THIS TIME AROUND, DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID IT SHOULD BE CONDUCTED IN A FRIENDLY WAY AS BEFITTING OF MEMBERS OF +ONE BIG FAMILY.+

ON HIS PARTY PRESIDENT POST, HE SAID IF THE POST WAS CONTESTED, IT WAS IMPORTANT THAT THE SUCCESSFUL CANDIDATE WIN BY A CONVINCING MAJORITY. -- MORE

2133MST 14 03 87

D360

B E470 AAE
MAHATHIR-PROJECT 4 KUALA KUBU BAHARU R R R R R R R R R R

ASKED WHY THE RECENT UMNO SUPREME COUNCIL MEETING LASTED ONLY HALF AN HOUR, HE EXPLAINED THERE WERE NOT MANY MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION AND IT WAS CONSIDERED THAT IT WOULD BE BEST IF PARTY ELECTIONS ISSUES WERE NOT DISCUSSED.

HOWEVER, THE SUPREME COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT WERE ALLOWED TO RAISE ANY MATTER IF THEY WANTED BUT NONE TOOK THIS OPPORTUNITY.

ON THE UPCOMING SARAWAK STATE ELECTIONS, DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR, WHEN ASKED WHETHER FEDERAL MINISTERS WOULD BE ASSISTING THE STATE BARISAN NASIONAL IN THE CAMPAIGNING, REPLIED IT ALL DEPENDED ON WHETHER THE ELECTION WAS ONE BETWEEN BARISAN NASIONAL AND OTHER QUARTERS.

HE SAID THAT FOR THE MOMENT, IT WAS DIFFICULT FOR HIM TO KNOW WHAT SITUATION WOULD PREVAIL DURING THE ELECTION.

ASKED WHETHER THE BARISAN NASIONAL SUPREME COUNCIL WOULD MEET OVER THE POLITICAL SITUATION IN THE STATE, HE SAID THE MEETING WOULD BE HELD WHEN +A CLEARER PICTURE EMERGES.+ -- BERNAMA

2146MST 14 03 87