

U E937 AAE
UMNO-VOTING R'R'R'R'

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87 (e)
KUALA LUMPUR, MARCH 28 (BERNAMA) -- A SPECIAL VOTING SYSTEM WILL BE USED TO ELECT THE 25 MEMBERS OF THE UMNO SUPREME COUNCIL AT THE UMNO GENERAL ASSEMBLY NEXT MONTH, PRIME MINISTER AND UMNO PRESIDENT DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD SAID TONIGHT.

THE SYSTEM DECIDED AT THE SUPREME COUNCIL MEETING TONIGHT WAS AIMED AT AVOIDING ERRORS AS PROBABLY MORE THAN 100 PEOPLE WOULD BE CONTESTING THIS TIME, HE SAID.

SPEAKING TO REPORTERS AFTER CHAIRING THE THREE-HOUR MEETING AT THE UMNO COMPLEX HERE, DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID UNDER THE SYSTEM EVERY CANDIDATE WOULD BE GIVEN A NUMBER FOR IDENTIFICATION.

THE DELEGATES WOULD BE GIVEN A PIECE OF PAPER CONTAINING 25 SPACES TO WRITE THE NUMBER OF THE CANDIDATES OF THEIR CHOICE.

HE SAID THE DELEGATES WOULD ALSO BE GIVEN A CARD WITH THE NAMES OF THE CANDIDATES AND THEIR NUMBERS TO ENABLE THEM TO CHECK AND MAKE THEIR CHOICE BEFORE THEY CAST THEIR VOTES INTO THE BALLOT BOX. -- MORE

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U E938 AAE
UMNO-VOTING 2 KUALA LUMPUR R'R'R'R'

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR ALSO SAID THE VOTING TO ELECT THE PRESIDENT, DEPUTY PRESIDENT, VICE-PRESIDENTS, PERMANENT CHAIRMAN AND DEPUTY PERMANENT CHAIRMAN WOULD BE CONDUCTED LIKE BEFORE.

THE VOTING FOR THESE POSTS WOULD BE HELD AS USUAL WITH DELEGATES HAVING TO PUT A CROSS AGAINST THE NAMES OF THE CANDIDATES OF THEIR CHOICE, HE SAID.

THE DELEGATES WOULD BE REQUIRED TO CAST THEIR VOTES ONE BY ONE AND NOT IN GROUPS -- DIVISION BY DIVISION LIKE IN THE PAST.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THE FIRST HALF OF THE SESSION ON THE FIRST DAY OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY WOULD BE TAKEN UP BY THE OPENING CEREMONY WHILE THE ELECTION WOULD BE CONDUCTED AFTER FRIDAY PRAYERS AT ABOUT 3PM.

ABOUT 100 BALLOT BOXES WOULD BE MADE AVAILABLE. -- MORE
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U E939 AAE

UMNO-VOTING 3 KUALA LUMPUR R'R'R'R'

ON THE LAST DAY FOR ACCEPTING NOMINATION, HE SAID THE SUPREME COUNCIL DECIDED THAT THOSE WISHING TO CONTEST SHOULD CONFIRM THEIR ACCEPTANCE BY 4.30PM, APRIL 11.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR ALSO SAID THE KUANTAN, SUNGAI BENUT AND BATU UMNO DIVISIONS HAD BEEN DIRECTED TO RECONVENE THEIR DELEGATES' CONFERENCES AS THEIR EARLIER MEETINGS HAD BEEN DECLARED NULL AND VOID.

THE SUPREME COUNCIL ARRIVED AT THIS DECISION AFTER STUDYING THE VARIOUS COMPLAINTS THAT WERE RECEIVED AGAINST THE EARLIER MEETINGS. UMNO HEADQUARTERS HAD RECEIVED COMPLAINTS AGAINST FIVE DIVISIONS WHICH HAD HELD THEIR DELEGATES CONFERENCES.

IT WAS ALLEGED THAT CERTAIN PEOPLE'S MEMBERSHIP IN THE DIVISIONS HAD NOT BEEN CERTIFIED.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID THOSE WHOSE MEMBERSHIP HAD BEEN CERTIFIED BY THEIR RESPECTIVE DIVISIONS BEFORE DEC 31, IRRESPECTIVE OF WHETHER THEY HAD BEEN CONFIRMED BY THE SUPREME COUNCIL, WOULD BE CONSIDERED AS MEMBERS AND HAD THE RIGHT TO TAKE PART IN PARTY ACTIVITIES AT DIVISIONAL OR BRANCH LEVEL.

THE SUPREME COUNCIL WOULD NOT ENTERTAIN ANY MORE COMPLAINTS OVER THE VALIDITY OF DELEGATES' CONFERENCES OF OTHER DIVISIONS, HE SAID. -- MORE

0121MST 29 03 87

U E940 AAE

UMNO-VOTING 4 KUALA LUMPUR 'R'R'R'R'

ON UMNO'S EXPANSION TO SABAH WHICH WAS SCHEDULED TO BE DISCUSSED TONIGHT AT THE SUPREME COUNCIL MEETING, HE SAID THIS WAS NOT DISCUSSED AND HAD BEEN DEFERRED.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR ALSO SAID THE MEETING DID NOT DISCUSS THE SARAWAK ELECTION AS IT WOULD BE BROUGHT UP AT THE BARISAN NASIONAL SUPREME COUNCIL MEETING ON APRIL 1.

THE SUPREME COUNCIL ALSO DID NOT DISCUSS THE GOPENG PARLIAMENTARY BEAT WHICH FELL VACANT WITH THE RESIGNATION OF FORMER MCA PRESIDENT TAN KOON SWAN.

WHEN ASKED ABOUT THE COMPROMISE AMONG THE FOUR PARTY STALWARTS IN THE COMING UMNO ELECTION, DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID THAT MATTER WAS ALSO NOT DISCUSSED.

AMONG THOSE WHO ATTENDED THE SUPREME COUNCIL MEETING WERE UMNO DEPUTY PRESIDENT DATUK MUSA HITAM, VICE-PRESIDENTS GHAFAR BABA, DATUK ABDULLAH AHMAD BADAWI AND DATUK SERI HAJI WAN MOKHTAR, UMNO YOUTH HEAD ANWAR IBRAHIM AND WANITA HEAD DATIN PADUKA RAFIDAH AZIZ.

-- BERNAMA

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