

D667

B E734 AAE
PARLIAMENT-DADAH
BM

KUALA LUMPUR, JULY 6 (BERNAMA) -- THE GOVERNMENT IS CONSIDERING ALLOCATING MORE FUNDS FOR EFFORTS TO COMBAT THE DADAH PROBLEM IN THE COUNTRY, PRIME MINISTER DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD SAID TODAY.

IT WAS THINKING OF A GENERAL INCREASE IN ALLOCATIONS FOR THE FIGHT AGAINST DADAH, HE SAID IN REPLY TO ENCIK SHAHIDAN KASSIM (BN-ARAU) IN THE DEWAN RAKYAT.

ENCIK SHAHIDAN HAD ASKED WHETHER THE GOVERNMENT INTENDED TO PROVIDE MORE MONEY TO ACTIVE ANTI-DADAH BODIES SUCH AS PEMADAM, SAYING THIS WOULD BE IN LINE WITH THE PRIME MINISTER'S CALL AT THE RECENT INTERNATIONAL DRUG CONFERENCE IN VIENNA THAT COUNTRIES SHOULD ALLOT MORE FUNDS TO INTENSIFY THE CAMPAIGN AGAINST DADAH.

TO A QUESTION FROM ENCIK LEE LAM THYE (DAP-BUKIT BINTANG) ON HOW MALAYSIA PROPOSED TO IMPLEMENT THE POINTS CONTAINED IN THE COMPREHENSIVE MULTIDISCIPLINARY OUTLINE OF FUTURE ACTIVITIES IN DRUG ABUSE CONTROL (CMO) THAT WAS ADOPTED AT THE VIENNA MEETING, DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID MOST OF THEM WERE SUBMITTED BY MALAYSIA. -- MORE

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MANY OF THOSE SUGGESTIONS HAD BEEN PUT INTO EFFECT BY MALAYSIA, HE ADDED.

HOWEVER, FURTHER ANTI-DADAH MEASURES WOULD CONTINUE TO BE CARRIED OUT IN THE COUNTRY AS WELL AS THOSE INVOLVING COOPERATION WITH NEIGHBOURING COUNTRIES OR AT THE INTERNATIONAL LEVEL.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR HOPED AT LEAST SOME OF THE 138 COUNTRIES REPRESENTED AT THE VIENNA CONFERENCE EXHIBITED REAL POLITICAL COMMITMENT TO RESOLVING THE DADAH PROBLEM.

HE SAID THAT WHILE IT WAS DIFFICULT TO JUDGE WHETHER SUCH POLITICAL WILL WAS REAL, THE HIGH ATTENDANCE RATE AT THE CONFERENCE SHOWED SUCH COMMITMENT COULD BE ENHANCED.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR HAD EARLIER TOLD ENCIK ABDUL RAHMAN BAKAR (BN-MARANG) THAT THE SUCCESS OF THE CONFERENCE REPRESENTED A SUCCESS FOR MALAYSIA AND ASEAN TOO. -- MORE

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THIS WAS BECAUSE MALAYSIA AND ITS ASEAN PARTNERS WERE THE MAIN MOVING FORCE BEHIND THE ANTI-DADAH CAMPAIGN AND HAD REPEATEDLY STRESSED THE URGENCY OF HAVING AN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON THE PROBLEM.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY HAD PAID TRIBUTE TO MALAYSIA BY NOT ONLY ELECTING IT AS CONFERENCE CHAIRMAN BUT ALSO ACCEPTING MALAYSIA'S PROPOSAL THAT THE MEETING COME OUT WITH A DECLARATION.

HE SAID THE FACT THE SO MANY COUNTRIES ATTENDED THE MEETING SHOWED THAT THE WORLD WAS CONVINCED OF THE DANGER DRUGS COULD POSE IF NOT CHECKED.

WORLD ACCEPTANCE WAS IMPORTANT BECAUSE ONE COUNTRY ALONE COULD NOT WAGE A SUCCESSFUL WAR AGAINST THE DRUG SCOURGE WITHOUT THE SUPPORT AND ASSISTANCE OF OTHER NATIONS.

HE HOPED THE VIENNA SUCCESS CONTRIBUTED TOWARDS CURRENT AND FUTURE EFFORTS BY MALAYSIA TO ERADICATE DADAH ABUSE IN THE COUNTRY. -- MORE

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DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID THE CONFERENCE PRODUCED TWO SUBSTANTIVE DOCUMENTS -- THE CMO AND A DECLARATION.

THE CMO WAS ACCEPTED BY THE WORLD COMMUNITY AS A GUIDE ON ACTIONS THAT COULD BE TAKEN AGAINST DRUG ABUSE AND TRAFFICKING.

ALTHOUGH IT WAS NOT A TREATY OR AGREEMENT, IT STILL REFLECTED WORLD CONSENSUS THAT DRUGS MUST BE ERADICATED AND IT CONTAINED THE WAYS OF GOING ABOUT THIS, HE ADDED.

THE DECLARATION REPRESENTED AN EXPRESSION OF POLITICAL COMMITMENT OF THE PARTICIPATING NATIONS THAT THEY WOULD OPPOSE DRUG ABUSE AND TRAFFICKING WITH ALL AVAILABLE MEANS.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID THE COUNTRIES HAD VOICED THEIR WILLINGNESS TO ACT IN CONCERT AT NATIONAL, REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL LEVELS.

THIS INCLUDED SUPPORTING AND JOINING ALL UNITED NATIONS CONVENTIONS ON DADAH, ASSISTING THE RELEVANT UN BODIES IN SUCH EFFORTS AND RECOGNISING THE ROLE OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS.

-- BERNAMA

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