

D506

B E233 AAE
MAHATHIR R'R'R'R'

KUALA LUMPUR, OCT 21 (BERNAMA) -- DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD TODAY ADVISED ALL QUARTERS ESPECIALLY NEWSPAPERS TO PLAY THEIR ROLE IN ENSURING THE PEACE AND STABILITY OF THE COUNTRY.

HE SAID IT WAS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF EVERYONE TO RESTRAIN FROM MAKING AND PUBLISHING PROVOCATIVE STATEMENTS.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THIS TO REPORTERS AT THE KUALA LUMPUR INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT ON HIS RETURN FROM VANCOUVER WHERE HE ATTENDED THE COMMONWEALTH HEADS OF GOVERNMENT MEETING.

WHEN ASKED WHETHER HE WOULD ADVISE HIS CABINET MINISTERS NOT TO MAKE ANY MORE SENSITIVE STATEMENTS, HE SAID: +I WOULD ADVISE NEWSPAPERS TO PLAY THEIR ROLE RESPONSIBLY. IF WE WANT STABILITY, WE SHOULD NOT BE PROVOCATIVE,+ HE SAID.

ASKED AGAIN IF HE WOULD ADVISE HIS CABINET MINISTERS TO REFRAIN FROM MAKING PROVOCATIVE STATEMENTS IN VIEW OF THE POLITICAL SITUATION IN THE COUNTRY, HE SAID: +WE ADVISE EVERYBODY, NOT JUST MINISTERS.+ -- MORE

1713MST 21 10 87

B E234 AAE
MAHATHIR 2 KUALA LUMPUR R'R'R'R'

ON THE OUTBREAK OF RUMOURS THAT RACIAL RIOTS HAD OCCURRED IN THE CITY FOLLOWING THE CHOW KIT SHOOTING INCIDENT, HE SAID THAT KIND OF REACTION OCCURRED BECAUSE +EVERYBODY WAS THINKING ALONG THAT LINE,+

HE SAID THE INCIDENT HAD GOT NO CONNECTION WITH RACIAL PROBLEMS AS CAN BE SEEN FROM THE VICTIMS OF THE SHOOTING WHO WERE MALAYS AND CHINESE. -- BERNAMA

1715MST 21 10 87