

U E359 AAE
MAHATHIR-STAR

KUALA LUMPUR, NOV 6 (BERNAMA) -- THE HOME MINISTRY HAS REJECTED AN APPEAL BY THE STAR PUBLICATIONS TO RE-ISSUE THE PUBLISHING PERMITS FOR THE STAR AND THE SUNDAY STAR.

PRIME MINISTER DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD, WHO IS ALSO THE HOME MINISTER, DISCLOSED THIS WHEN APPROACHED BY NEWSMEN AFTER OPENING THE NATIONAL WELFARE SEMINAR HERE.

HE DID NOT STATE THE POSITION OF TWO OTHER PUBLICATIONS, THE CHINESE DAILY SIN CHEW JIT POH AND THE BAHASA MALAYSIA BI-WEEKLY WATAN, WHICH ALSO HAD THEIR PRINTING PERMITS REVOKED LAST WEEK.

ASKED WHETHER THERE WAS ANY CHANCE OF THE PERMITS BEING RE-ISSUED TO THE NEWSPAPERS, DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID IT WAS UP TO THE POLICE.

+IF THE MATTER IS REFERRED TO ME, I WILL LOOK INTO IT BUT WE DO NOT GIVE ANY GUARANTEE,+ HE SAID. -- MORE
1250MST 06 11 87

U E377 AAE
MAHATHIR-STAR 2 KUALA LUMPUR (REQUESTED RPTN)

ON THE DETENTION OF 93 PEOPLE UNDER THE INTERNAL SECURITY ACT (ISA) SINCE OCT 27, THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THE PEOPLE HAD NOTHING TO FEAR AS LONG AS THEY DID NOT BRING UP ISSUES WHICH COULD LEAD TO DISUNITY.

+IF THERE ARE MATTERS AFFECTING THE RACES THAT NEED TO BE SORTED OUT, THEY SHOULD BE SETTLED WITHIN THE PROPER CHANNELS,+ HE SAID.

HE SAID THERE WERE POLITICAL PARTIES AND ORGANISATIONS WHICH COULD BRING UP THESE MATTERS AND THE GOVERNMENT WOULD GIVE THEM DUE ATTENTION.

+BUT WHAT HAD HAPPENED WAS THAT SOME PEOPLE HAD BEEN IMPATIENT AND RESORTED TO MAKING STATEMENTS IN THE PRESS AND THAT HAD RESULTED IN THE OTHER SIDE COMING OUT WITH COUNTER STATEMENTS,+ HE SAID.

ALL THESE HAD PROVED TO BE DAMAGING TO THE PEOPLE'S UNITY AND WHAT WAS MORE REGRETTABLE WAS THAT THE SUBJECTS THAT HAD BEEN BROUGHT UP WERE TRIVIAL MATTERS, HE ADDED. -- MORE
1443MST 06 11 87

U E357 AAE
MAHATHIR-STAR 3 KUALA LUMPUR

HE URGED THE PEOPLE NOT TO MAKE ANY UNWARRANTED STATEMENTS, ESPECIALLY THOSE WHICH COULD HURT THE FEELINGS OF OTHERS.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID THE GOVERNMENT WOULD CONTINUE TO PRACTISE ITS LIBERAL AND OPEN POLICY BUT THIS SHOULD NOT BE TAKEN TO MEAN THAT THE PEOPLE COULD DO OR SAY WHAT THEY LIKED.

+TO TALK OF WHO GETS MORE AND WHO GETS LESS WOULD SURELY BE DETRIMENTAL TO UNITY,+ HE SAID.

ON THE BANNING OF RALLIES AND OTHER GATHERINGS WHICH ARE POLITICAL IN NATURE, DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID THIS WOULD GO ON UNTIL THE POLICE WERE SATISFIED THAT THE SITUATION WAS +ALL RIGHT+ FOR THEM TO BE HELD. -- BERNAMA

1236MST 06 11 87