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MAHATHIR-INSTITUTION 'R'R'R'

BM

KUCHING, JULY 3 (BERNAMA) -- PRIME MINISTER DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD SAID TODAY THAT THERE ARE GROUPS TRYING TO USE CERTAIN INSTITUTIONS TO GRAB THE POWER TO RULE FROM THE PEOPLE.

HE SAID THAT THESE INSTITUTIONS TRIED TO USE VARIOUS WAYS, INCLUDING THE LAWS, AND WERE EVEN PREPARED TO DISREGARD THE LAWS TO DENY THE POWER OF THE PEOPLE.

LAUNCHING THE SARAWAK-LEVEL LOYALTY WITH THE PEOPLE MOVEMENT (SEMARAK) CAMPAIGN AT KAMPUNG GITA HERE, DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID THE PEOPLE SHOULD PROTECT DEMOCRACY AND RETAIN THEIR POWER TO RULE AS THERE WERE GROUPS TRYING TO SEIZE THIS POWER FROM THEM.

SARAWAK IS THE FIFTH STATE WHERE THE SEMARAK CAMPAIGN WAS LAUNCHED BY THE PRIME MINISTER.

SPEAKING TO THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE AMIDST HEAVY RAIN, HE SAID: +WE DO NOT WANT ANY INSTITUTIONS WHICH WE HAVE TO ENSURE THE SUCCESS OF THE COUNTRY IN DETERMINING PEACE AND JUSTICE TO BE MADE USED OF BY CERTAIN PEOPLE WISHING TO SEIZE POWER FROM THE PEOPLE,+ HE SAID. -- MORE

1847MST 03 07 88

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MAHATHIR-INSTITUTION 2 KUCHING 'R'R'R'

+THE PEOPLE SHOULD NOT ALLOW THIS TO HAPPEN BECAUSE EACH OF THESE INSTITUTIONS HAD THEIR ROLE TO PLAY AND THEY (INSTITUTIONS) SHOULD CARRY OUT THEIR DUTIES ACCORDING TO THE RULES AND REGULATIONS,+ HE SAID.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THAT THERE WERE ALSO SOME PEOPLE WHO WERE APPOINTED TO HOLD CERTAIN POSTS AND NOT ELECTED BY THE PEOPLE BUT USED THEIR POSITIONS TO SEIZE POWER FROM THE PEOPLE. +THIS IS AN UNHEALTHY DEVELOPMENT, HE SAID.

HE REMINDED THE PEOPLE TO BE UNITED AND NOT ALLOW THEMSELVES TO BE LED BY A GROUP OF ELITISTS BUT, ON THE OTHER HAND, DEFEND DEMOCRACY SO THAT THEY COULD RULE THEMSELVES.

THROUGH THIS WAY, HE SAID, THE PEOPLE COULD PUT AN END TO LEADERS WHO WERE NOT LOYAL TO THE PEOPLE.

THE PEOPLE, DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR ALSO SAID, SHOULD ELECT LEADERS WHO COULD BRING THEM PROGRESS AND NOT THOSE WHO WERE GREEDY AND IRRESPONSIBLE.

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MAHATHIR-INSTITUTION 3 KUCHING 'R'R'R'

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR REITERATED THAT THE MINORITY GROUP SHOULD ADHERE TO THE WISHES OF THE MAJORITY AND NOT TRY TO HAMPER OR DENY THE POWER OF THE MAJORITY BECAUSE IT HAD NO SUCH RIGHTS.

HE ALSO HIT OUT AT GROUPS WHICH SMEARED THE IMAGE OF THE COUNTRY, INCLUDING AN AUSTRALIAN TELEVISION STATION WHICH ALLEGED THAT MALAYSIA WAS A POLICE STATE.

HE SAID THAT THE STATION HAD SHOT PICTURES OF POLICE ACTIVITIES IN VARIOUS PLACES, LIKE WHEN POLICE PERSONNEL WERE HAVING THEIR DRILLS, MARCHING, LOCKING AND OPENING DOORS, TO PORTRAY THAT AS IF POLICE WERE RULING THE COUNTRY.

THESE ARE LIES BY MISCHIEVOUS ELEMENTS, HE SAID, ADDING THAT THE PEOPLE WERE HAPPY WITH THE POLICE FOR ENSURING THEIR SECURITY.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THAT SINCE THE COUNTRY ACHIEVED INDEPENDENCE ABOUT 30 YEARS AGO AND SARAWAK 25 YEARS AGO, THE GOVERNMENT BROUGHT ABOUT IMMENSE DEVELOPMENT AND THAT NO ONE COULD DENY THIS. -- MORE

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MAHATHIR-INSTITUTION 4 KUCHING 'R'R'R'

HE SAID THAT ALL THE PEOPLE ENJOYED THE FRUITS OF DEVELOPMENT AND NO ONE WAS LEFT BEHIND, EVEN IN SARAWAK WHICH WAS SEPARATED BY SEA FROM THE PENINSULA.

EARLIER, SARAWAK CHIEF MINISTER DATUK PATINGGI HAJI ABDUL TAIB MAHMUD SAID THE PEOPLE OF SARAWAK COMPRISING VARIOUS ETHNIC GROUPS WERE NOW ABLE TO MAINTAIN THEIR UNITY AND PROTECT THE STABILITY OF THE STATE.

THEY HAVE SHOWN THAT THEY WOULD NOT BE INFLUENCED BY RUMOURS AND PROPAGANDA AIMED AT DESTABILISING THE GOVERNMENT, HE SAID.

DATUK PATINGGI HAJI ABDUL TAIB SAID THE SEMARAK GATHERING TODAY REFLECTED THAT THE PEOPLE WERE UNITED AND LOYAL TO THE COUNTRY AND UNDERSTOOD THE MEANING OF DEMOCRACY.

HE SAID THAT THE PRIME MINISTER SHOULD CONTINUE WITH HIS EFFORTS TO BRING ABOUT DEVELOPMENT TO THE COUNTRY. -- BERNAMA

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