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PARLIAMENT-COMMUNISTS

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KUALA LUMPUR, JULY 7 (BERNAMA) -- COMMUNIST TERRORIST (CT) LEADERS WHO REPENTED MAY NOT BE EASILY REACCEPTED INTO THE COUNTRY, PRIME MINISTER DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD STRESSED TODAY.

+WE SHOULD REMEMBER THAT THEY WERE INVOLVED IN (CLANDESTINE) OPERATIONS WHICH RESULTED IN THE KILLING OF MANY PEOPLE IN THIS COUNTRY,+ HE SAID IN THE DEWAN RAKYAT TODAY.

+THEY ALSO HAD DESTROYED PROPERTY, CREATED FEAR IN THE PEOPLE AND KILLED MANY SECURITY PERSONNEL. WE CANNOT EASILY REACCEPT THEM BY SAYING THEY HAVE REPENTED,+ HE TOLD ENCIK MOHAMAD NOH RAJAB (BN-TAMPIN) WHO ASKED WHETHER COMMUNIST TERRORISTS WHO HAD REPENTED SUCH AS SAMSAH FAKEH (WHO WAS NOW IN CHINA) WOULD BE ALLOWED TO RETURN.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID THE CT LEADERS SHOULD BE PLACED UNDER DETENTION IF THEY RETURNED TO THE COUNTRY AFTER THEY REPENTED AND UNDERGO THE REHABILITATION PROCESS SO THAT THEY WOULD NOT SUBSCRIBE TO THE COMMUNIST IDEOLOGY ANYMORE. -- MORE

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TO A SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTION FROM ENCIK HU SEPANG (DAP-RASAH), DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID SINCE HE BECAME PRIME MINISTER, ABOUT 2,000 COMMUNIST SYMPATHISERS WERE RELEASED.

HOWEVER, HE SAID THERE WERE ABOUT 300 MORE OF THEM STILL UNDER DETENTION BECAUSE THEY WERE STRONG SYMPATHISERS OF THE COMMUNIST IDEOLOGY, DID NOT WANT TO REPENT AND REJECTED DEMOCRACY.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THAT NORMALLY, COMMUNISTS WERE IDENTIFIED THROUGH THE WAY THEY OPERATED AND INFLUENCED OTHERS. -- MORE

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DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR ALSO SAID THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAD NEVER CLASSIFIED AS COMMUNISTS THOSE WHO OPPOSED IT.

+IF ALL THOSE WHO OPPOSED THE GOVERNMENT ARE REGARDED AS COMMUNISTS, SURELY WE WILL HAVE TO SET UP MANY MORE JAILS.+

+AND IF WE REGARD POLITICAL PARTIES WHICH CRITICISED THE GOVERNMENT ALSO AS COMMUNISTS, SURELY DAP MEMBERS THEMSELVES WILL NOT BE HERE TODAY,+ HE SAID.

TO A QUESTION FROM ENCIK ZUBIR EMBONG (BN-KUALA TERENGGANU), HE SAID THE GOVERNMENT WAS AWARE OF THE WAYS COMMUNISTS IMPARTED THEIR IDEOLOGY THROUGH FRONT ORGANISATIONS AND OTHER BODIES WHICH PURPORTEDLY ENSURED, AMONG OTHERS, JUSTICE AND HUMAN RIGHTS AND PROTECTED THE ENVIRONMENT.

NORMALLY, THOSE WHO WERE EASILY INFLUENCED BY THE COMMUNIST IDEOLOGY WERE PEOPLE WHO LACKED EXPERIENCE AND POLITICIANS WHO FAVOURED THE COMMUNIST CONCEPT AND IDEOLOGY. -- MORE

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DUE TO THIS, HE SAID, THE GOVERNMENT DETAINED SEVERAL PEOPLE WHO WERE MEMBERS OF COMMUNIST FRONT ORGANISATIONS WHICH SUBSCRIBED TO IDEOLOGIES FROM ABROAD.

REPLYING TO ENCIK FUNG KET WING (DAP-SANDAĀAN), DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID ABOUT 200 COMMUNIST TERRORISTS ACTED AS THE +FRONT LINE+ IN CARRYING OUT COMMUNIST PROGRAMMES SPONSORED BY THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF MALAYA (CPM) AND NORTH KALIMANTAN COMMUNIST PARTY (NKCP).

+ALTHOUGH THE CPM AND THE NKCP ARE SMALL IN NUMERICAL STRENGTH, THEY STILL THREATENED THE SECURITY OF THE COUNTRY AND WE HAVE TO BE WARY OF THEIR PLANS AND ACTIONS,+ HE SAID.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THE GOVERNMENT WAS IMPLEMENTING PROGRAMMES ON A COMPREHENSIVE BASIS AND IN AN EFFECTIVE MANNER AS PART OF EFFORTS TO CHECK THE COMMUNIST INFLUENCE. -- MORE
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THE SECURITY FORCES WOULD CONTINUE TO CONDUCT OPERATIONS TO WIPE OUT THE COMMUNIST THREAT, HE SAID.

HOWEVER, FOR SECURITY REASONS, CERTAIN OTHER MEASURES TAKEN TO CHECK THE COMMUNIST INFLUENCE COULD NOT BE REVEALED IN DETAIL TO THE PUBLIC. -- BERNAMA
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