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B E664 AAE  
MAHATHIR-ACT R'R'R'  
BM

88  
KUALA LUMPUR, MARCH 14 (BERNAMA) -- DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR  
MOHAMAD SAID TODAY THE GOVERNMENT WILL TABLE AMENDMENTS TO THE  
SOCIETIES ACT 1960 AND THE FEDERAL CONSTITUTION TO KEEP UP WITH THE  
CURRENT SITUATION.

THE PRIME MINISTER TOLD REPORTERS AT PARLIAMENT HOUSE HERE THAT  
THE AMENDMENTS INCLUDED SECTION 12 (3) OF THE ACT.

SEVERAL MINOR CONSEQUENTIAL AMENDMENTS WILL ALSO BE MADE, + HE  
SAID.

UNDER SECTION 12 (3), AN ORGANISATION IS UNLAWFUL IF THERE ARE  
BRANCHES OR DIVISIONS THAT ARE NOT REGISTERED WITH THE REGISTRAR OF  
SOCIETIES.

THE HIGH COURT HAD ON FEB 4 DECLARED THE OLD UMNO UNLAWFUL UNDER  
THE SOCIETIES ACT BECAUSE 30 OF ITS BRANCHES WERE NOT REGISTERED  
WITH THE REGISTRAR OF SOCIETIES.

HOWEVER, THE PRIME MINISTER DID NOT SAY WHETHER THE AMENDMENTS  
WERE RELATED TO THE COURT ACTION.

THE COURT RULING WAS MADE FOLLOWING AN APPLICATION BY 11 FORMER  
UMNO MEMBERS TO DECLARE THE PARTY'S APRIL 24 ELECTIONS LAST YEAR  
NULL AND VOID BECAUSE OF THE 30 UNREGISTERED BRANCHES. -- MORE  
1945MST 14 03 88

D260

B E671 AAE  
MAHATHIR-ACT 2 KUALA LUMPUR

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THE AMENDMENTS TO THE FEDERAL  
CONSTITUTION INVOLVED +LAND AND RESERVE LAND AND OTHER MATTERS+.  
HE DID NOT SAY WHEN THE AMENDMENTS TO THE SOCIETIES ACT AND THE  
FEDERAL CONSTITUTION WOULD BE TABLED IN THE DEWAN RAKYAT.

HOWEVER, HE SAID: +THE GOVERNMENT HOPES THE DRAFT AMENDMENTS  
WILL BE READY TOMORROW. AFTER THAT YOU ALL CAN SEE THEM.+

HE SAID THE SPECIAL CABINET MEETING THIS MORNING HAD DISCUSSED  
THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR ALSO DID NOT SAY WHETHER THE AMENDMENTS  
TO THE ACT WOULD AFFECT THE MOTION OF THE PRO TEM COMMITTEE OF THE  
PROPOSED UMNO MALAYSIA SEEKING LEAVE FROM THE HIGH COURT HERE TO  
QUASH THE DECISION OF THE REGISTRAR OF SOCIETIES REJECTING THE ITS  
APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION.

HEARING OF THE LEAVE APPLICATION WAS ADJOURNED BY THE HIGH COURT  
TODAY PENDING THE OUTCOME OF THE APPEAL TO THE HOME MINISTER AGAINST  
THE REJECTION. -- MORE  
2000MST 14 03 88

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B E675 AAE  
MAHATHIR-ACT 3 KUALA LUMPUR

ASKED TO COMMENT ON NEWSPAPER REPORTS ABOUT TALK THAT THE UMNO MALAYSIA PRO TEM COMMITTEE PLANNED TO SET UP A NEW PARTY CALLED +PERTUBUHAN KEBANGSAAN MELAYU SEMENANJUNG+ (PERKASA), HE SAID: I DO NOT KNOW WHETHER IT (THE REPORT) IS TRUE OR NOT. MAYBE IT IS JUST A RUMOUR.+

ON THE NUMBER OF FORMER UMNO MEMBERS THAT WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED BY UMNO BARU OF WHICH HE IS PRO TEM PRESIDENT, HE SAID THE NUMBER WOULD NOT EXCEED 100, INCLUDING TENGKU RAZALEIGH HAMZAH.

ON THE WHITE PAPER ON THE RECENT MASS DETENTIONS UNDER THE INTERNAL SECURITY ACT, THE PRIME MINISTER SAID IT WOULD BE PUBLISHED WHEN READY AND DISTRIBUTED TO THE MPS AT THE CURRENT DEWAN RAKYAT SITTING. -- BERNAMA  
2009MST 14 03 88