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MAHATHIR - NEP
BN

JITRA, NOV 28, (BERNAMA) -- THE GOVERNMENT WILL INVITE BARISAN NASIONAL (BN) COMPONENT PARTIES AND THE PUBLIC FOR DISCUSSIONS BEFORE COMING UP WITH A NEW POLICY TO REPLACE THE NEW ECONOMIC POLICY (NEP) WHICH WILL RUN OUT IN 1990.

PRIME MINISTER DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD, SAID THE GOVERNMENT WOULD ALSO GET SPECIFIC VIEWS FROM GROUPS LIKE TRADERS, INTELLECTUALS AND ACADEMICIANS.

SUCH DISCUSSIONS, HOWEVER, HAD NOT BEEN STARTED AND THE GOVERNMENT HAD NOT FIXED A DATE FOR THE PURPOSE, HE TOLD REPORTERS AFTER CHAIRING THE UMNO KUBANG PASU DIVISION MEETING HERE LAST NIGHT.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR, WHO IS ALSO UMNO PRESIDENT, SAID THIS WHEN ASKED TO COMMENT ON VIEWS EXPRESSED BY GERAKAN, A BN COMPONENT PARTY, WHICH YESTERDAY URGED THE GOVERNMENT TO FORMULATE A NATIONAL ECONOMIC POLICY AIMED AT FACE-SETTING ECONOMIC GROWTH AND ERADICATING POVERTY TO REPLACE THE NEP.

GERAKAN PRESIDENT DATUK DR LIM KENG YAK IN A STATEMENT SAID THE PARTY WANTED THE NEW POLICY TO PROVIDE EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES TO ALL QUARTERS IN THE DISTRIBUTION OF WEALTH, BESIDES KEEPING INTACT ITS MAIN OBJECTIVE OF BRINGING ABOUT UNITY AMONG THE PEOPLE.--MORE
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MAHATHIR - NEP 2 JITRA

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID THE GOVERNMENT WOULD STUDY GERAKAN'S VIEWS ON THE NEP TOGETHER WITH THAT FROM OTHER BN COMPONENT PARTIES.

HE ALSO SAID THE POSITION OF THE HIZBUL MUSLIMIN (HAMIM) IN THE BN REMAINED UNCHANGED FOLLOWING THE RESIGNATIONS OF ITS PRESIDENT, DATUK ASRI HAJI NUDA AND 12 OTHER SUPREME COUNCIL MEMBERS OF THE PARTY, WHO LATER WERE ADMITTED INTO UMNO.

HE SAID HE COULD NOT HOWEVER ASCERTAIN HOW MANY HAMIM MEMBERS HAD RESIGNED TO JOIN UMNO FOLLOWING DATUK ASRI'S MOVE.

+UMNO'S PRESENT POLICY IS TO ADMIT ALL MALAYS. IF THERE ARE ANY MORE HAMIM MEMBERS WHO WANT TO JOIN UMNO, HE WILL ACCEPT THEM,+ HE ADDED.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR, WHO IS ALSO UMNO KUBANG PASU DIVISION HEAD SAID HE BRIEFED THE DIVISION'S MEMBERS ON THE LATEST DEVELOPMENTS IN THE COUNTRY, INCLUDING THE POSITION OF HAMIM IN THE BN.--BERNAMA
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