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MAHATHIR - MCA

BM

MELAKA, DEC 10 (BERNAMA) -- PRIME MINISTER DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD SAID TODAY HE HAS YET TO GET THE DETAILS OF THE DECISION BY DR LIM ANN KHOON TO QUIT AS MCA MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT FOR AMPANG JAYA FROM YESTERDAY.

+ I ONLY HEARD ABOUT HIS RESIGNATION, + HE TOLD REPORTERS AT AIR KERUH NEAR HERE.

ASKED IF DR LIM'S RESIGNATION COULD BE LINKED TO THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN MCA AND UMNO, HE SAID: + HOW COULD I COMMENT ON THIS... I DON'T KNOW.

ON TALK THAT THE RESIGNATION WAS STAGED MANAGED BY THE MCA, THE PRIME MINISTER SAID: + I CANNOT MAKE SUCH AN ALLEGATION.

HE ALSO REFUSED TO BE DRAWN INTO COMMENTING ON THE TWO PRE-CONDITIONS SET BY EX-UMNO SUPREME COUNCIL MEMBER DATUK SHAHRIR ABUOL SAHAD FOR HIM TO ACCEPT UMNO'S INVITATION TO RESIT ON THE COUNCIL.

+ I DON'T WANT TO DEBATE ABOUT THIS IN THE PRESS, + HE SAID.

DATUK SHAHRIR, THE JOHOR BAHRU MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT, WAS REPORTED IN THE PRESS TODAY AS SAYING THAT HE WOULD RETURN TO THE UMNO SUPREME COUNCIL, THE PARTY'S POLICY-MAKING BODY, IF FORMER BRANCH AND DIVISIONAL HEADS OF UMNO APPOINTED PRIOR TO THE PARTY'S GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN APRIL LAST YEAR WERE ACCEPTED INTO UMNO.

ANOTHER PRE-CONDITION SET BY DATUK SHAHRIR WAS THAT UMNO SHOULD ACCEPT THESE LEADERS UNDER THE OLD CONSTITUTION OF THE PARTY (BEFORE ITS DEREGISTRATION). --BERNAMA

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