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MAHATHIR - KELANTAN 2 2 2 2

BM

KUALA LUMPUR, DEC 17 (BERNAMA) -- DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD SAID TODAY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT WOULD RESOLVE THE CONTROVERSY OVER THE TRANSFER OF 20 ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS IN KELANTAN +WHEN THE TIME COMES+.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID IF THE ISSUE REACHED THE STAGE OF REQUIRING (FEDERAL GOVERNMENT) INTERVENTION, EVERYTHING THAT COULD BE DONE WOULD BE DONE.

HE SAID THIS TO REPORTERS AFTER OPENING RADIO TELEVISION MALAYSIA'S EARTH SATELLITE COMPLEX (KOMSTAR) HERE IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE +ELEKTRONIKA EXPO+, A WEEK-LONG EXPOSITION OF THE LATEST AS WELL AS FUTURISTIC DEVELOPMENTS IN THE ELECTRONICS TECHNOLOGY.

HE HOWEVER DECLINED TO SAY WHAT STEPS WOULD BE TAKEN TO RESOLVE THE PROBLEM IN KELANTAN.

ASKED IF THE SITUATION IN KELANTAN WAS A CAUSE FOR CONCERN, HE SAID IT WAS NOT.

+DON'T WORRY, IT CAN BE SETTLED,+ THE PRIME MINISTER SAID.--MORE
1437HST 17 12 88

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THE CONTROVERSY WAS SPARKED OFF BY THE TRANSFER LETTERS TO THE OFFICERS ISSUED BY STATE SECRETARY DATUK HAJI NAM MOHAMED YUSOF ON DEC 4 WITHOUT THE PRIOR KNOWLEDGE OF MENTERI BESAR TAN SRI HAJI MOHAMED YAACOB.

FOLLOWING THIS, THE STATE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL REVISED THE ORIGINAL TRANSFER LIST AND ORDERS BUT ITS DECISION WAS LATER REVOKED BY THE STATE PUBLIC SERVICES COMMISSION.

TAN SRI MOHAMED HAD SAID THE ISSUE HAD BROUGHT ABOUT A CONSTITUTIONAL CRISIS IN THE STATE.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID TODAY THE SITUATION IN KELANTAN +CAN STILL BE CONTROLLED+.

EARLIER, THE PRIME MINISTER AND HIS WIFE DATUK PADUKA DATIN SERI DR SITI HASHAH ALI WATCHED A PHYSICAL DRILL BY 800 STAFF OF THE INFORMATION MINISTRY AND ITS AGENCIES.--MORE
1431HST 17 12 88

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WHILE VISITING THE EXHIBITION, THE PRIME MINISTER ALSO HAD HIS PORTRAIT SKETCHED BY ROBOT NAMED PANA WHILE ANOTHER ROBOT, PENDERIA, CHECKED HIS HEALTH.

HE ALSO PRESENTED WITH A REPLICA OF A SATELLITE FROM SAPURA HOLDINGS CHAIRMAN DATUK SHAMSUDDIN ABUL KADIR, HIS ROBOTIC PORTRAIT AND THE LATEST VIDEO CAMERA FROM MATSUSHITA SALES AND SERVICES SON BHO MANAGING DIRECTOR KAZ MAKAJIMA. -- BERNAMA
1509HST 17 12 88