

D441

U E509 AAE
MAHATHIR-ELECTION R'R'R'R'
BM

KUALA LUMPUR, NOV 19 (BERNAMA) -- THE PRIME MINISTER TODAY GAVE AN ASSURANCE THAT PRIORITY WILL BE GIVEN TO NOMINATIONS FROM DIVISIONS AND THEIR RESPECTIVE STATES WHEN SELECTING UMNO CANDIDATES TO REPRESENT THE BARISAN NASIONAL IN THE NEXT GENERAL ELECTION.

HE SAID HE WAS PERSONALLY NOT INTERESTED IN DECIDING BY HIMSELF THE LIST OF UMNO CANDIDATES FOR THE ELECTION BUT RATHER THE SELECTION BE MADE BY THE STATES.

+THEY ONLY ASK FOR CONFIRMATION FROM ME AND SOMETIMES A LITTLE CHANGE IS MADE,+ HE SAID WHEN REPLYING TO POINTS RAISED AT THE UMNO GENERAL ASSEMBLY HERE.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD DREW THE ATTENTION OF DELEGATES TO THE NOMINATIONS FROM JOHOR FOR THE 1986 GENERAL ELECTION SUBMITTED BY THE THEN MENTERI BESAR DATUK AJIB AHMAD, TO WHICH NO CHANGES WERE MADE ALL.

HE REMINDED UMNO MEMBERS THAT CONTESTING IN THE ELECTION WAS TO FORM A GOVERNMENT AS SUCH THE QUESTION OF GIVE AND TAKE SHOULD BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT.

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2000MST 19 11 89

D449

U E510 AAE
MAHATHIR-ELECTION 2 KUALA LUMPUR R'R'R'R'

FOR INSTANCE, A CANDIDATE FROM THE URBAN AREA WOULD HAVE TO BE MOVED TO THE RURAL AREA TO PROVIDE AN EQUAL CHANCE AS BOTH HAD QUALIFICATIONS, HE SAID.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID UMNO WAS A PARTY WHICH REPRESENTED THE RURAL COMMUNITY AND IF ONLY THIS FACTOR WAS TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT THERE WOULD BE NO OPPORTUNITIES AT ALL FOR CANDIDATES FROM THE URBAN AREAS.

AS SUCH HE ADVISED UMNO MEMBERS NOT TO WORRY OVER THE LEADERSHIP'S DECISION TO PLACE SEVERAL +PARACHUTE CANDIDATES+ IN CERTAIN AREAS.

+WE WILL NOT FIELD PARACHUTE CANDIDATES ALL THE TIME BUT ONLY WHEN NECESSARY FOR IF THERE ARE TOO MANY THEN THEY MIGHT BE INJURED,+ HE SAID.

THE PRIME MINISTER CRITICISED DELEGATES WHO WHEN RAISING THE QUESTION OF THE ELECTION CONCENTRATED MORE ON THE CHOICE OF CANDIDATES AND NOT ON THE MATTER OF THE ELECTION ITSELF.

HE SAID THE QUESTION OF NOMINATION OF CANDIDATES COULD BE DISCUSSED AT ANY TIME. -- MORE

2026MST 19 11 89

D454

U E512 AAE
MAHATHIR-ELECTION 3 KUALA LUMPUR R'R'R'R'

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THE GENERAL ELECTION COULD BE HELD AT ANY TIME FROM NOW UP TO OCTOBER 1991.

LATER AT A PRESS CONFERENCE, HE SAID THE FIVE-YEAR PERIOD OF THE PRESENT GOVERNMENT WAS COUNTED FROM THE TIME OF THE FIRST SITTING OF PARLIAMENT AFTER THE LAST GENERAL ELECTION.

THE LAST GENERAL ELECTION WAS IN APRIL 1986 AND PARLIAMENT MET IN OCTOBER OF THE SAME YEAR.

ASKED WHETHER IT WAS APPROPRIATE FOR THE GENERAL ELECTION TO BE HELD AT PRESENT IN VIEW OF SEVERAL POSITIVE FACTORS SUCH AS MALAYSIA'S SUCCESS IN THE SEA GAMES, HE SAID IT SHOULD NOT BE MADE THE DECIDING FACTOR.

THIS WAS BECAUSE MANY EXPECTED THE BARISAN NASIONAL TO LOSE IN THE 1986 GENERAL ELECTION BECAUSE OF THE ECONOMIC RECESSION BUT UMNO WON ALL ITS SEATS AND IT WAS CONSIDERED AS THE PARTY'S BEST PERFORMANCE. -- MORE

2037MST 19 11 89

U E525 AAE
MAHATHIR-ELECTION 4 KUALA LUMPUR R'R'R'R'

ON MALAY UNITY, HE SAID IT WAS STILL STRONG WITHIN UMNO BECAUSE +THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE WHO LEFT THE PARTY WAS NEGLIGIBLE AND HOPEFULLY ARE OUT OF THE PARTY ONLY FOR THE TIME BEING.+

HE HOPED THEY WOULD RETURN TO THE FOLD AND TOGETHER CHAMPION THE MALAY RACE.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR DREW THE ATTENTION OF DELEGATES TO THE REPRESENTATIVE FROM JOHOR ENCIK ADAM HAMID WHO MOVED THE MOTION OF THANKS FOR THE PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS.

ACCORDING TO THE PRIME MINISTER HE (ADAM) HAD DISTANCED HIMSELF FROM HIM FOR A LITTLE WHILE.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR CONSIDERED ENCIK ADAM'S RETURN TO THE PARTY AND HIS SUBSEQUENT TABLING OF THE MOTION AS OF MAJOR SIGNIFICANCE TO UMNO.

ON THE PRIVATISATION POLICY, THE PRIME MINISTER ADVISED THE MALAYS NOT TO BE WORRIED AS THE GOVERNMENT STILL HAD THE POWER TO CONTROL A PARTICULAR AGENCY THAT WAS PRIVATISED.

+THE PROFITS OF ANY GOVERNMENT SERVICE THAT WAS PRIVATISED WILL NOT GO TO OTHERS BUT BENEFIT BUMIPUTERAS.+

IT WAS BETTER THAT THROUGH PRIVATISATION A COMPANY MADE PROFITS BECAUSE THE MALAYS COULD NOT TAKE ANY PRIDE WHEN A 100 PER CENT BUMIPUTERA COMPANY MADE LOSSES ALL THE TIME. -- MORE

2101MST 19 11 89

U E532 AAE
MAHATHIR-ELECTION 5 KUALA LUMPUR R'R'R'R'

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THE GOVERNMENT DID NOT SELL ALL THE SHARES SIMULTANEOUSLY WHEN AN AGENCY IS PRIVATISED AND SOMETIMES USED THE +GOLDEN SHARE+ CONCEPT WHICH GAVE THE CONTROLLING POWER TO THE GOVERNMENT OVER OTHER MAJORITY SHAREHOLDERS.

HE SAID THROUGH THIS METHOD THE GOVERNMENT HAD THE DECIDING POWER IN CONTROLLING HAPPENINGS IN AN AGENCY.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR DREW THE ATTENTION OF DELEGATES TO THE SUCCESSFUL PRIVATISATION OF VARIOUS SERVICES SUCH AS THE KLANG CONTAINER TERMINAL, MALAYSIA AIRLINES AND SYARIKAT TELEKOM MALAYSIA WHICH WERE MAKING PROFITS AND DIRECTLY BENEFITING THEIR EMPLOYEES AND SOCIETY.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR ADVISED THE MALAYS TO CHANGE THEIR ATTITUDE OF BEING ENVIIOUS OVER THE SUCCESS OF OTHERS AND INSTEAD STRIVE TO IMPROVE THEMSELVES PARTICULARLY ON THE QUESTION OF MANAGEMENT AND IN OTHER FIELDS OF EXPERTISE.

+WE SHOULD REMEMBER IF WE ARE CLEVER ENOUGH TO SAFEGUARD AND MANAGE OUR PROPERTY AND RIGHTS, THEN THEY WILL REMAIN IN OUR HANDS ALWAYS,+ HE SAID. -- BERNAMA

2120MST 19 11 89