

U E270 AAE
MAHATHIR-ISLAM (REQ RPTN)

BM

KUALA LUMPUR, DEC 2 (BERNAMA) -- DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD SAID TODAY THE ACTION OF THE EIGHT MCA SELANGOR ASSEMBLYMEN WHO TENDERED CONDITIONAL RESIGNATIONS OVER THE SELANGOR ADMINISTRATION OF ISLAMIC LAW ENACTMENT 1989 WAS A PLANNED-D-% MOVE.

+AT FIRST I **THOUGHT** THE ACTION OF THE EIGHT WAS OF THEIR OWN DOING BUT IT APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN PLANNED,+ HE TOLD A NEWS CONFERENCE AFTER CHAIRING THE UMNO SUPREME COUNCIL MEETING HERE.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID SUCH AN ACT OF TENDERING THE CONDITIONAL RESIGNATIONS AND THE THREAT WAS UNACCEPTABLE BECAUSE THE MATTER SHOULD BE RESOLVED THROUGH DISCUSSIONS AS WAS THE PRACTICE OF THE BARISAN NASIONAL:

ACCORDING TO THE BN PRACTICE HE SAID, THE MATTER SHOULD HAVE BEEN DISCUSSED EARLIER TO FIND A WAY TO RESOLVE IT OR AT LEAST HE SHOULD BE INFORMED OF THE ACTION BEFORE IT WAS TAKEN.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR, WHO IS UMNO PRESIDENT⁹ SAID THE UMNO SUPREME COUNCIL FULLY SUPPORTED THE STAND OF THE SELANGOR GOVERNMENT ON **THE** ISSUE.

THE SELANGOR GOVERNMENT HAD DIRECTED THE STATE LEGAL ADVISOR TO **IMMEDIATELY** STOP A STUDY ON THE SELANGOR ADMINISTRATION OF ISLAMIC LAW ENACTMENT (AMENDMENT 1989) PASSED IN JULY AND WOULD NOT CHANGE ITS DECISION TO RETAIN THE ENACTMENT. -- MORE

1840MST 02 1 2 8 9

U E271 AAE
MAHATHIR-ISLAM 2 KUALA LUMPUR (REQ RPTN)

ON NOV 27, DATUK YAP **PIAN HON (SERDANG)**, DATUK **NG THIAN HOCK (PANDAMARAN)**, BOTH STATE EXECUTIVE **COUNCILLORS**, ENCIK TANG SEE HANG **(RAWANG)**, ENCIK TONG YOKE SENG **(TELUK GADONG)**, ENCIK WONG AH TAIH (KUALA KUBU **BARU**), ENCIK ENG HOI CHOO **(PANGlima GARANG)**, ENCIK SIM KENG SEIK **(SEKINCHAN)** AND ENCIK NG SOON POR **(SUNGAI PELIK)** TENDERED THEIR CONDITIONAL RESIGNATIONS TO TAKE EFFECT FROM DEC 15 IF THE ENACTMENT WAS NOT AMENDED.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID **HE** DID NOT THINK THE MATTER COULD BE RESOLVED BY HOLDING A MEETING OF THE BN SUPREME COUNCIL OF THE BARISAN AS LONG AS THE **EIGHT** ASSEMBLYMEN DID NOT WITHDRAW THEIR RESIGNATION LETTERS.

+WE ARE STILL PREPARED TO SEEK WAYS TO RESOLVE THE PROBLEM BUT WE CANNOT ACCEPT SUCH THREAT,+ HE SAID.

SELANGOR MENTERI BESAR TAN SRI MUHAMMAD HAJI MUHAMMAD **TAIB**, A MEMBER OF THE UMNO SUPREME **COUNCIL**, WAS PRESENT AT THE PRESS CONFERENCE TO EXPLAIN THE EVENTS LEADING TO THE ISSUE.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID HE WAS WORRIED THE MATTER WOULD EXPOSE THE COUNTRY TO PRESSURES WHEN THE GOVERNMENT WAS STRIVING TO HAVE PEACE AND STABILITY IN THE COUNTRY AND TO ENCOURAGE MORE INVESTORS TO THE COUNTRY.

HE SAID SEVERAL COUNTRIES WERE FACING PROBLEMS BECAUSE THERE WAS NO SPIRIT OF GIVE AND TAKE AND CONSENSUS AMONG POLITICAL **PARTIES**, LEADING TO CHAOS. -- MORE

1843MST 02 1 2 8 9

U E273 AAE
MAHATHIR-ISLAM 3 KUALA LUMPUR (REQ RPTN)

TAN SRI MUHAMMAD SAID THE LAW HAD BEEN DISCUSSED AT SEVERAL STAGES BEGINNING AT STATE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL LEVEL, WHICH WAS ATTENDED BY DATUK YAP AND DATUK NC AND A +PRE-COUNCIL+ MEETING BEFORE BEING PRESENTED TO THE STATE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

HE SAID THE ENACTMENT WAS APPROVED WITHOUT ANY OPPOSITION INCLUDING FROM THE DAP REPRESENTATIVES AND THE TWO MEMBERS OF PART 1 SEHANGAT 46 WHEN A VOTE WAS TAKEN IN THE ASSEMBLY.

HE SAID THE MATTER ONLY BECAME AN ISSUE AFTER THE ENACTMENT WAS APPROVED AND IT WAS RAISED BY HCA LEADERS TO THE EXTENT THAT HE HAD TO HOLD A MEETING WITH HCA PRESIDENT DATUK SERI DR LING LIONG SIK, AND HIS DEPUTY, ENCIK LEE KIM SAI AND THE EIGHT ASSEMBLYMEN.

AFTER THE DISCUSSIONS, TAN SRI MUHAMMAD AGREED TO A SUGGESTION BY ENCIK LEE THAT THE ENACTMENT BE BROUGHT TO A MEETING OF THE STATE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL FOR A REVIEW.

THE ENACTMENT WAS LATER DISCUSSED AT A MEETING OF THE STATE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL ON NOV 15, WHICH WAS ATTENDED BY DATUK YAP, DATUK NG AND THE STATE LEGAL ADVISOR WHO WAS ASKED TO MAKE A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF THE ISLAMIC ENACTMENTS OF THE OTHER STATES. -- MORE
1846HST 02 12 89.

D460

U E274 AAE
MAHATHIR-ISLAM 4 KUALA LUMPUR (REQ RPTN)

TAN SRI MUHAMMAD SAID FURTHER-D-\$ DISCUSSIONS TO RESOLVE THE ISSUE COULD NOT BE HELD AT THE STATE EXCO MEETING ON NOV 22 AS THE MEETING WAS CALLED OFF BECAUSE THE RAJA MUDA OF SELANGOR WAS VISITING HIS ELECTION CONSTITUENCY.

HE SAID THE MEETING WAS SUBSEQUENTLY SCHEDULED FOR NOV 29 BUT BEFORE IT COULD BE HELD, THE EIGHT MEMBERS TENDERED THEIR CONDITIONAL RESIGNATIONS ON NOV 27.

+WHAT I REGRET IS THAT WHEN ALL EFFORTS AT A CONSENSUS OF THE BN HAD NOT BEEN EXHAUSTED! A DIRECTIVE CAME FROM THE MCA LEADERSHIP FOR THEM TO SEND IN THEIR RESIGNATION LETTERS,+ HE SAID.

HE WAS SURPRISED BECAUSE THE RESIGNATION LETTERS WERE DATED NOV 15, THE DATE THE STATE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL BEGAN DISCUSSING EFFORTS TO SEEK A SOLUTION.

HE SAID THAT BECAUSE THE ORIGINAL SPIRIT OF CONSENSUS OF THE BN TO LOOK FOR A SETTLEMENT HAD BEEN IGNORED, THE SELANGOR GOVERNMENT DECIDED TO DIRECT THE STATE LEGAL ADVISOR TO STOP THE STUDY ON THE ENACTMENT.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID THAT FROM THE EXPLANATION OF TAN SRI MUHAMMAD, IT APPEARED THAT THE MATTER WAS PLANNED. -- BERNAMA
1848MST 02 12 89