

U E147 AAE  
MAHATHIR-TUNKU R'R'R'  
BM

(8)

90  
IPOH, APRIL 23 (BERNAMA) -- THE GOVERNMENT'S EFFORTS TO TRAIN AND EXPOSE THE MALAYS IN BUSINESS SINCE 1969 HAVE PRODUCED MANY MALAY BUSINESSMEN, SOME CAPABLE OF COMPETING WITH BUSINESSMEN FROM OTHER RACES, PRIME MINISTER DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD SAID TONIGHT.

HE REGRETTED THE STATEMENT MADE BY TUNKU ABDUL RAHMAN PUTRA AL-HAJ THAT THE MALAYS WERE NOT TRAINED TO HANDLE BUSINESS AND THAT THE GOVERNMENT SHOULD THUS LET THE CHINESE HANDLED THE SECTOR AND TAX THEM WHEN THEY MADE PROFIT.

IF THIS WAS SO, THE MALAYS WOULD NEVER BE ABLE TO DOMINATE THE BUSINESS SECTOR, HE SAID WHEN SPEAKING TO REPORTERS AFTER BREAKING THE FAST AT THE RESIDENCE OF THE MENTERI BESAR HERE.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID IT WAS SUCH REMARK THAT MADE THE MALAYS AND UMNO LOST CONFIDENCE IN THE TUNKU WHO IS NOW THE ADVISER TO SEMANGAT 46 PARTY.

ASKED WHETHER THE TUNKU'S VIEW WAS THAT OF SEMANGAT 46, HE SAID, +AS THEIR ADVISER, NATURALLY WHAT HE THINKS IS SHARED TO A CERTAIN EXTENT BY THE PARTY.+ -- MORE.

2156MST 23 04 90

U E148 AAE  
MAHATHIR-TUNKU 2 IPOH R'R'R'

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID SUCH STATEMENT MADE BY THE TUNKU HAD MARRED HIS POSITION AS THE FIRST UMNO PRESIDENT AND THE FATHER OF INDEPENDENCE.

+AS A MATTER OF FACT, IT (THE VIEW) IS NOTHING NEW BECAUSE THAT WAS HIS VIEW THEN, THAT THE MALAYS WERE INCAPABLE OF VENTURING INTO BUSINESS. AS SUCH THEY ARE ONLY GOOD AS CIVIL SERVANTS AND LET THE CHINESE HANDLE THE BUSINESS,+ HE SAID.

HE SAID THAT ALTHOUGH THE TUNKU REPORTEDLY HAD DENIED MAKING THE STATEMENT +WE KNOW THAT THIS HAS BEEN HIS VIEW ALL ALONE.+

+WE WANT TO REMEMBER THE TUNKU AS AN INDEPENDENCE FIGHTER AND BAPA MALAYSIA. WE DO NOT WANT TO REMEMBER HIM WITH MATTERS THAT WE DID NOT AGREE UPON LONG AGO WHICH RESULTED IN HIM LOSING OUR CONFIDENCE SINCE 1969.+

THE TUNKU WAS REPORTED TO MAKE THE STATEMENT IN AN INTERVIEW WITH THE CHINESE DAILY -- NANYANG SIANG PAU SINGAPURA -- WHICH WAS REPRODUCED BY THE SINGAPORE STRAITS TIMES ON APRIL 17. -- MORE.

2217MST 23 04 90

U E149 AAE  
MAHATHIR-TUNKU 3 IPOH R'R'R'

+WE REALISE THE MALAYS ARE WEAK IN BUSINESS AND IF WE DO NOT TRAIN THEM HOW ARE THEY GOING TO IMPROVE. THE CHINESE WERE AT ONE TIME ONLY CONDUCTED FAMILY BUSINESS BUT AFTER BEING TRAINED IN CORPORATE FIELD, THEY ARE NOW SUCCESSFUL,+ HE SAID.

HE SAID AS A RESULT OF TRAINING MORE MALAYS NOWADAYS WERE VENTURING INTO BUSINESS ON LARGE SCALE.

+IF THEY WERE NO TRAINING GIVEN, HOW ARE WE TO PRODUCE PEOPLE LIKE DATUK AZMAN HASHIM (ARAB MALAYSIAN-MERCHANT BANK CHAIRMAN) AND DATUK SHAMSUDDIN ABDUL KADIR (SAPURA HOLDINGS CHAIRMAN),+ HE SAID.

AS TO A SUGGESTION THAT AGE WAS PROBABLY CATCHING WITH THE TUNKU, DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR BERKATA: +THEN IT IS BETTER THAN HE DOES NOT LOWER HIMSELF TO THAT LEVEL BECAUSE WE WANT TO LOOK UP TO HIM.

+I PERSONALLY WISH TO LOOK UP TO HIM AS AN OLDER PERSON ALTHOUGH HE DOES NOT LIKE ME. IT IS QUITE OBVIOUS. BUT THAT DOES NOT PREVENT ME FROM LOOKING UP TO SOMEONE THAT IS OLDER THAN ME,+ HE SAID.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID THAT TO A CERTAIN EXTENT THE MALAYS HAD ATTRIBUTED TO THE TUNKU'S SUCCESS AS A POLITICIAN. +WE SUPPORTED HIM IN KEDAH. THE LEAST HE CAN DO IS TO SUPPORT US.+ -- BERNAMA.  
2238MST 23 04 90

P 5150 515