

D049

U E270 AAE
MAHATHIR-UMNO

BM

PULAU PINANG, MAY 20⁹⁰ (BERNAMA) -- ALL UMNO DIVISIONS, EXCEPT FOR A FEW FACING PETTY PROBLEMS, ARE PREPARED FOR THE COMING GENERAL ELECTION, SAID PARTY PRESIDENT DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD.

+UMNO WILL SORT OUT THE PROBLEMS WHICH DO NOT AFFECT THE PARTY+, HE SAID AT A PRESS CONFERENCE AFTER MEETING THE PULAU PINANG UMNO LIAISON COMMITTEE HERE TODAY.

HE WAS COMMENTING ON THE RESPONSE BY UMNO DIVISIONS NATION-WIDE TO ABOUT 100 PARTY QUESTIONAIRES ON THEIR PREPARATION FOR THE ELECTION.

THE DEADLINE FOR THEM TO REPLY WAS LAST TUESDAY.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR EXPRESSED CONFIDENCE THAT UMNO WOULD AGAIN BE VICTORIOUS IN PULAU PINANG IN THE COMING GENERAL ELECTION GIVEN THE GOOD COOPERATION OF OTHER BARISAN NASIONAL COMPONENTS NAMELY THE GERAKAN, MCA AND MIC.

AT TODAY'S MEETING HE DISCUSSED STATE UMNO PROBLEMS INCLUDING ISSUES RAISED BY SEMANGAT 46 AND PAS, THE PRIME MINISTER SAID.-- MORE

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D058

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MAHATHIR-UMNO 2 PULAU PINANG

THE PRIME MINISTER TOOK TO TASK CERTAIN TRADE UNIONISTS WHOM HE SAID WERE BEHIND MOVES TO DENY MALAYSIA OF THE GSP (GENERAL SYSTEM OF PREFERENCES) STATUS IT CURRENTLY ENJOYED.

+THESE TRADE UNION LEADERS CUM POLITICIANS ARE DOING IT FOR THEIR POLITICAL GAINS AT THE EXPENSE OF THE WORKERS' WELLBEING,+ HE SAID.

HE SAID PARTIES WITH VESTED INTERESTS IN THE UNITED STATES TOO WERE INVOLVED IN THE PLOY TO UNDERMINE THE COUNTRY'S INDUSTRIAL SECTOR.

BY DENYING MALAYSIA OF THE GSP STATUS, THEY WOULD RECREATE JOB OPPORTUNITIES FOR AMERICANS, HE SAID.

THE GOVERNMENT WANTED TO RETAIN THE GSP STATUS TO BOOST INVESTMENT INFLOW AND GENERATE MORE JOBS, HE SAID.-- MORE

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D059

U E280 AAE
MAHATHIR-UMNO 3 PULAU PINANG

A LOCAL ENGLISH-LANGUAGE NEWSPAPER YESTERDAY REPORTED THAT THE WASHINGTON-BASED INTERNATIONAL LABOUR RIGHTS EDUCATION AND RESEARCH FUND WOULD PETITION FOR THE EXCLUSION OF MALAYSIAN-MADE ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS FROM THE GSP.

EARLIER IN JUNE 1988, THE AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOUR AND CONGRESS OF INDUSTRIAL ORGANISATIONS (AFLCIO) ALSO LOBBIED FOR THE WITHDRAWAL OF THE GSP STATUS FROM MALAYSIA.-- BERNAMA

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