

D930

U E164 AAE
MAHATHIR-THREATS A ' R' R'

BM

ARAU, JUNE 25 (BERNAMA) - - PRIME-MINISTER DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD TODAY DENIED OPPOSITION LEADER LIM KIT SIANG'S ALLEGATIONS THAT HE USES INTIMIDATION-TACTICS BY SAYING THERE WILL BE CHAOS IF THE PEOPLE CHOOSE A WEAK GOVERNMENT.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID HIS STATEMENT WAS NOT A THREAT BUT AN EARLY WARNING TO THE PEOPLE OF WHAT TO EXPECT IF THEY MADE A WRONG CHOICE OF GOVERNMENT.

+ I AM NOT MAKING THREATS. IT IS MY RESPONSIBILITY TO MAKE SUCH ANALYSIS. IF RIOTS TAKE PLACE, I WILL BE HELD RESPONSIBLE. I DO NOT WANT TO BE HELD RESPONSIBLE THAT IS WHY WE PUT OUT AN EARLY WARNING, + HE SAID.

THE PRIME MINISTER WAS SPEAKING AT A MEETING WITH 500 GOVERNMENT OFFICERS OVER LUNCH AT THE MARA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY CAMPUS HERE TODAY.

HE SAID THE SECRET BEHIND MALAYSIA'S SUCCESS STORY WAS A STRONG BARISAN NASIONAL GOVERNMENT.-- MORE

1801MST 25 06 90

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U E170 AAE
MAHATHIR-THREATS 2 ARAU R' R' R'

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID MALAYSIA'S ACHIEVEMENT WAS PARTLY DUE TO ITS CITIZENS, WHOM HE DESCRIBED AS SOPHISTICATED, WHO UNDERSTOOD THE CONCEPT AND PRACTICE OF DEMOCRACY.

HE SAID BECAUSE OF THAT STRENGTH THE GOVERNMENT COULD FACE SLANDEROUS ALLEGATIONS HURLED AT IT BECAUSE +THE PEOPLE CAN TELL WHO IS LYING AND WHO IS TELLING THE TRUTH+.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID THE PHRASE +POLITICAL MASTERS+ WAS NO LONGER APPLICABLE IN THE CONTEXT OF THE COUNTRY'S PRESENT DEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENT.

THE PHRASE WAS COINED BY COLONIALISTS WHO WERE THE MASTERS DURING THEIR RULE AND HAD THE PEOPLE OF THIS COUNTRY AT THEIR BECKONING.

THE REAL +POLITICAL MASTERS+ NOW WERE THE PEOPLE AND NOT POLITICIANS BECAUSE THE PEOPLE CHOSE THE GOVERNMENT EVERY FIVE YEARS, HE SAID.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID A STRONG GOVERNMENT WAS NOT AFRAID OF TAKING +UNPOPULAR ACTIONS+ WHICH WERE ACTUALLY FOR THE GOOD OF THE NATION.-- MORE

1832MST 25 06 90

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U E177 AAE
MAHATHIR-THREATS 3 ARAU R' R' 8'

DATUK **SERI DR MAHATHIR** SAID ALTHOUGH THE GOVERNMENT TOOK CARE OF THE PEOPLE'S **NEEDS**, AT TIMES IT MUST SPEND PRUDENTLY TO **AVOID** THE COUNTRY FROM BEING BANKRUPT.

+NO ONE RESPECTS-A BANKRUPT **NATION**,+ HE SAID.

THE **PRIME** MINISTER REITERATED THAT IN A **DEMOCRACY**, CIVIL SERVANTS AND POLITICIANS SHOULD KNOW THE LINE THAT DIVIDED EACH OTHERS' SCOPE OF POWERS AND DUTIES.

HE WAS CLARIFYING REPORTS WHICH **QUOTED HIM** AT A MEETING WITH CIVIL SERVANTS IN BUTTERWORTH YESTERDAY AS REMINDING THEM NOT TO QUESTION POLICIES PROPOSED BY THE GOVERNMENT.

EARLIER, **PERLIS** MENTERI BESAR DR ABDUL **HAMID PAWAN** TEH SAID THE CHECKLIST SYSTEM INTRODUCED THREE YEARS AGO HAD HELPED IMPROVED EFFICIENCY AND EFFECTIVENESS OF THE STATE CIVIL SERVICE.

HE SAID THE QUESTION OF **+POLITICAL MASTERS+** DID NOT ARISE IN **PERLIS** AS THE STATE GOVERNMENT HAD ADOPTED THE CONCEPT OF JOINT RESPONSIBILITY FOR POLITICIANS AND ADMINISTRATORS.

THE MEETING WITH CIVIL SERVANTS WAS PART OF THE PRIME MINISTER AND HIS WIFE'S ITINERARY IN THEIR ONE-DAY VISIT TO **PERLIS TODAY.--**

BERNAMA
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