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MAHATHIR-RAZALEIGH
BM

SHAH ALAM, AUG 16 (BERNAMA) -- PAS HAS TO STATE WHETHER IT AGREES WITH PARTI SEMANGAT 46 PRESIDENT TENGKU RAZALEIGH HAMZAH THAT HE WOULD APPOINT A CHINESE AS A SECOND DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER IF THE OPPOSITION WON THE NEXT GENERAL ELECTION, PRIME MINISTER DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD SAID TODAY.

HE SAID TENGKU RAZALEIGH SHOULD INFORM PAS OF HIS INTENTION AND NOT SAY ONE THING TO THE CHINESE AND ANOTHER TO PAS.

+I WOULD LIKE TO ASK IF HAJI HADI (OF PAS) AGREES TO THAT,+ HE TOLD REPORTERS AFTER LAUNCHING FARMERS, LIVESTOCK-BREEDERS AND FISHERMEN'S DAY CELEBRATIONS AT THE AGRICULTURE PARK IN BUKIT CERAKAH HERE.

TENGKU RAZALEIGH MADE THE ANNOUNCEMENT IN AN INTERVIEW WITH A CHINESE LANGUAGE NEWSPAPER WHICH REPORTED IT TWO DAYS AGO.

ON NEWSPAPER REPORTS THAT UNIVERSITY OF MALAYA VICE-CHANCELLOR PROF SYED HUSSEIN ALATAS WOULD VACATE HIS POST, DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID HE HAD NOT HEARD OF THIS. -- MORE
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MAHATHIR-RAZALEIGH 2 SHAH ALAM

+I HAVE NOT HEARD THAT HE WANTED TO RESIGN ... HE WENT ON LEAVE,+ HE SAID.

PROF SYED HUSSEIN SAID YESTERDAY HE WAS ON LEAVE FOR TWO MONTHS TO PREPARE A REPORT ON THE OMBUDSMAN SYSTEM THAT THE COUNTRY PLANNED TO INTRODUCE.

ASKED WHETHER HE HAD BEEN ABLE TO GET IN TOUCH WITH PRESIDENT SADDAM HUSSEIN IN AN EFFORT TO BRING HOME MALAYSIANS STRANDED IN KUWAIT AND IRAQ FOLLOWING THE GULF CRISIS, DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID IT WAS GOOD ENOUGH HAVING SPOKEN WITH THE IRAQI DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER.

+OUR PROBLEM IS NOT TO TALK WITH HIM (PRESIDENT SADDAM) BUT TO BRING HOME OUR PEOPLE,+ HE SAID.

HE ALSO SAID THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAD NOT DISCUSSED WHETHER MALAYSIA'S SPORTS SQUADS SHOULD BOYCOTT MATCHES WITH IRAQI TEAMS. --
BERNAMA

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