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MAHATHIR - PARLIAMENT

BM

CHANGLUN, SEPT 21 (BERNAMA) -- THE GOVERNMENT WILL ENSURE THAT THE DISSOLUTION OF PARLIAMENT FOR THE COMING GENERAL ELECTION WILL BE DONE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LAW, PRIME MINISTER DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD SAID TODAY.

+IF WE MUST DISSOLVE PARLIAMENT WE WILL DISSOLVE IT, SO LONG AS IT DOES NOT BREACH THE LAW. IF THERE IS NO NEED TO, WE WILL NOT DO SO, HE ADDED.

HE WAS RESPONDING TO NEWS REPORTS QUOTING DAP SECRETARY-GENERAL ENCIK LIM KIT SIANG AS SAYING THAT THE PRIME MINISTER WOULD BE RIDICULING PARLIAMENT IF HE DISSOLVED THE HOUSE AFTER NOTICE OF SITTING ON OCT 15 WAS SENT TO MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT.

ASKED IF IT WOULD CONTRAVENE THE LAW IF PARLIAMENT WAS DISSOLVED AFTER THE NOTICE OF A SITTING HAD BEEN SENT OUT, DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID: +I DON'T KNOW IF THE DISSOLUTION WILL CONTRAVENE THE LAW OR NOT...+

HE DESCRIBED ENCIK LIM'S STATEMENT AS AN ATTEMPT TO +FISH+ FOR THE DATE FOR THE GENERAL ELECTION.

+HE WANTS TO KNOW WHEN THE ELECTION WILL BE HELD. IF I ANNOUNCE WE CAN DISSOLVE PARLIAMENT... IF I SAY THAT, HE WILL SAY: HA, IT WILL BE SOON,+

ENCIK LIM SAID IN PULAU PINANG YESTERDAY THAT CANCELLATION OF A PARLIAMENT SITTING WITHOUT EXTRAORDINARY REASON AFTER NOTICE OF SITTING HAD BEEN ISSUED WOULD LOWER ITS STATUS TO A PLAYTHING OF THE RULING POLITICAL PARTIES. -- BERNAMA

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