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MAHATHIR-TAPE

KUALA LUMPUR, SEPT 23 (BERNAMA) -- DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD SAID TODAY HE HAD NO INTENTION OF AIRING OVER THE RADIO AND TELEVISION A RECORDED SPEECH OF PARTI SEMANGAT 46 PRESIDENT TENGGU RAZALEIGH HAMZAH THAT HE WOULD ELIMINATE PAS IF HIS PARTY CAME TO POWER.

INSTEAD, THE PRIME MINISTER SAID, HE WAS PREPARED TO SHOW THE EVIDENCE TO PAS MEMBERS SHOULD THEY BE INTERESTED.

HE WAS RESPONDING TO REPORTERS AT THE HOME MINISTRY CLUB/PUSPANITA FAMILY DAY AT TAMAN TASIK PERDANA HERE WHEN ASKED TO COMMENT ON A STATEMENT BY PAS PRESIDENT HAJI FADZIL NOOR IN TODAY'S NEWSPAPERS THAT DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR CAN RUN THE TAPE OVER TELEVISION.

THE REPORTS ALSO SAID THAT PAS CONSIDERED THE EXPOSURE BY THE PRIME MINISTER AS AN ATTEMPT BY THE GOVERNMENT TO CAUSE A RIFT BETWEEN THE PARTY AND PARTI SEMANGAT 46 AND THAT IT COULD NOT BE BELIEVED BECAUSE THERE WAS NO PROOF.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID IN CHANGLON, KEDAH, ON FRIDAY THAT HE HAD A TAPE OF A SPEECH BY TENGGU RAZALEIGH IN WHICH HE HAD SAID THAT SEMANGAT 46 WOULD ELIMINATE PAS IF IT (SEMANGAT 46) WINS THE NEXT GENERAL ELECTION. -- MORE
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ASKED WHETHER THE EVIDENCE WOULD BE REVEALED TO THE PUBLIC, HE SAID: +WAIT FOR IT+.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID IT WOULD BE LEFT TO PAS MEMBERS WHETHER TO BELIEVE WHAT WAS TO BE EXPOSED.

+IF THEY DO NOT WANT TO BELIEVE, IT DOES NOT MATTER ... WHAT CAN WE DO. WE ONLY CONVEY THE INFORMATION,+ HE SAID.

ASKED ABOUT THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE STUDYING THE TOLL COLLECTION IN JALAN CHERAS, DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID THE REPORT WOULD BE PRESENTED BY WORKS MINISTER DATUK LEO MOGGIE AT THE NEXT WEEKLY MEETING OF THE CABINET.

ON THE POSSIBILITY OF THE TOLL RATE BEING REDUCED, HE SAID HE DID NOT WISH TO ANTICIPATE ANYTHING.

DATUK MOGGIE HAD ON SEPT 14 ANNOUNCED THE FORMATION OF THE COMMITTEE AND ASKED IT TO PRESENT THE REPORT IN 10 DAYS. THE DEADLINE IS TODAY. -- BERNAMA

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