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MAHATHIR-SABAH R'R'R

BM

MELAKA, OCT 16 (BERNAMA) -- THE PARLIAMENTARY ELECTION IN SABAH WILL PROCEED AS SCHEDULED AS THE LAWS PROHIBIT IT TO BE DEFERRED, PRIME MINISTER DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD SAID TODAY.

+I DON'T THINK IT CAN BE POSTPONED AS THAT IS AGAINST THE LAW,+ HE TOLD REPORTERS AFTER OPENING +GRAHA MAJU+, OFFICE OF THE MELAKA STATE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATIONS AND THE MELAKA WATER BOARD HERE.

THE PRIME MINISTER WAS COMMENTING ON USNO PRESIDENT TUN DATU MUSTAPHA DATUK HARUN'S SUGGESTION THAT THE ELECTION COMMISSION DEFER THE PARLIAMENTARY ELECTION IN SABAH.

THE POSTPONEMENT WOULD HELP PUT USNO ON A BETTER STANDING TO TAKE ON THE PARTI BERSATU SABAH (PBS) WHICH ANNOUNCED LAST NIGHT ITS WITHDRAWAL FROM THE BARISAN NASIONAL.

POLLING FOR THE GENERAL ELECTION IN SABAH WILL BE STAGGERED OVER TWO DAYS -- SATURDAY AND SUNDAY.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR WHO IS HOME MINISTER, SAID ANY PEACEFUL DEMONSTRATIONS LIKE THOSE CONTEMPLATED BY USNO, WOULD NOT BE ALLOWED.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID HE WOULD LISTEN TO WHAT TUN DATU MUSTAPHA HAD TOSAY WHEN HE MEETS THE USNO LEADER TOMORROW.-- MORE 2115MST 16 10 90

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MAHATHIR-SABAH 2 MELAKA R'R'R

ON A NOTION THAT SEMANGAT 46 PRESIDENT TENGKU RAZALEIGH HAMZAH WAS NOW VERY CONFIDENT OF VICTORY IN THE GENERAL ELECTION BUT ALSO OF FORMING THE NEXT GOVERNMENT, DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID:+ WE SHALL SEE WHO IS RIGHT. HE OR WE?+

WHEN ADDRESSING THE 2,000-ODD PEOPLE IN FRONT OF THE \$50-MILLION BUILDING, THE PRIME MINISTER DESCRIBED PBS PRESIDENT DATUK JOSEPH PAIRIN KITINGAN AS A GREEDY AND AN UN-MALAYSIAN-LIKE LEADER AS HE REFUSED TO SHARE SABAH'S WEALTH WITH THE OTHER STATES.

HE SAID IT WAS BETTER NOW THAT THE PBS WAS OUTSIDE THE BN AND REMINDED STATES THAT THEY SHOULD HELP EACH OTHER IN DEVELOPMENT SO THAT A POOR STATE COULD SHARE THE BENEFITS DERIVED FROM RICH STATES.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THE PBS HAD FORGOTTEN THAT WHEN SABAH HAD NO REVENUE FROM OIL, THE OTHER STATES SUCH AS TERENGGANU WHICH HAD OIL MONEY, SHARED THEIR WEALTH WITH SABAH.

THE PBS HAD, AMONG OTHER THINGS, DEMANDED INCREASED PETROLEUM ROYALTY.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID UNDER THE COUNTRY'S TAX SYSTEM, THE WEALTHY SHARE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF HELPING THE POOR.-- MORE 2014MST 16 10 90

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MAHATHIR-SABAH 3 MELAKA R'R'R

+WHAT HAPPENS TO THE POOR IF THE RICH SAY THEIR WEALTH IS ONLY FOR THEMSELVES?+ HE ASKED ADDING THAT THE COUNTRY'S WEALTH WAS LIKE AN ECONOMIC CAKE FOR EQUAL DISTRIBUTION AMONG THE STATES.

ON DATUK PAIRIN'S DEMAND THAT A UNIVERSITY BE SET UP IN SABAH, DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A UNIVERSITY SHOULD BENEFIT THE ENTIRE COUNTRY AND NOT JUST A PARTICULAR STATE.

HE SAID THE BN GOVERNMENT GAVE DUE CONSIDERATION TO THE RIGHTS OF ALL COMMUNITIES AS ITS COMPONENTS COMPRISED MODERATE AND ACCOMMODATIVE PARTIES.

UNLIKE IN OTHER COUNTRIES, THE BN GOVERNMENT DID NOT STOP ANY ONE COMMUNITY FROM EXPANDING ITS MERCANTILE ACTIVITIES AS LONG AS IT WAS PREPARED TO DISTRIBUTE THE NATION'S WEALTH WITH THE OTHER COMMUNITIES.

THIS IS TO AVOID ONE COMMUNITY FROM BECOMING TOO RICH AND ANOTHER BEING VERY POOR AND TO PREVENT RACIAL TENSION, HE SAID.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID A CHANGE OF GOVERNMENT WOULD NOT NECESSARILY BRING PROGRESS TO A NATION AS WAS IN A NEIGHBOURING COUNTRY.

CHIEF MINISTER TAN SRI HAJI RAHIM TAMBY CHIK AND STATE BN CANDIDATES FOR SUNDAY'S GENERAL ELECTION WERE PRESENT.-- BERNAMA
2049MST 16 10.90