

0066

R E680 AAE
MUSA-MAHATHIR R R R

BM

KUALA LUMPUR, JAN 21⁹⁰ (BERNAMA) -- FORMER DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER DATUK MUSA HITAM SAID TODAY THE CONFLICT OF VIEWS BETWEEN HIM AND DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD HAS GENERALLY BEEN RESOLVED.

HOWEVER, HE SAID, THE QUESTION OF RECONCILIATION DID NOT ARISE BECAUSE THEY HAD ALL THIS WHILE BEEN ABLE TO COOPERATE.

DATUK MUSA SAID DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR'S STYLE OF LEADERSHIP HAD CHANGED A LOT AND WAS MORE SENSITIVE TO THE PSYCHOLOGICAL NEEDS OF THE PEOPLE.

THE PRIME MINISTER'S STYLE OF LEADERSHIP WAS NOW +MORE RELAXED+ THOUGH FIRM, HE SAID WHEN ASKED BY REPORTERS WHETHER HIS ACCEPTANCE OF THE POST OF SPECIAL ENVOY TO THE UNITED NATIONS MEANT HE WAS ABLE TO COOPERATE WITH DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR. -- MORE

1744MST 21 01 89

R E692 AAE
MUSA-MAHATHIR 2 KUALA LUMPUR R R R

ASKED WHETHER THE POST WAS EQUIVALENT TO THAT OF A CABINET MINISTER, DATUK MUSA SAID THE QUESTION OF STATUS SHOULD NOT BE HIGHLIGHTED BECAUSE WHAT WAS IMPORTANT WAS HIS SERVICE TO THE NATION.

EARLIER, DATUK MUSA PRESENTED A PAPER AT A SEMINAR ON MALAY THINKING AT UNIVERSITI MALAYA HERE.

HE SAID HE BELIEVED THE POST WAS SPECIALLY CREATED NOT FOR HIM TO SERVE IN THE UNITED NATIONS ALONE BUT ALSO TO PLAY OTHER ROLES AT THE INTERNATIONAL LEVEL, INCLUDING BEING IN CLOSE CONTACT WITH INVESTORS AND PROMOTING MALAYSIA.

+THE POST IS NOT IMPORTANT...SO LONG AS IT IS USEFUL TO THE COUNTRY. IN FACT, I CAN EVEN HOLD MINOR POSTS. I DON'T MIND WHAT PEOPLE MAY THINK,+ HE SAID.

HE DECLINED COMMENT WHEN ASKED WHETHER HE INTENDED TO HOLD ANY POSTS IN THE PARTY OR TO CONTEST IN THE PARTY ELECTIONS DURING THE COMING UMNO GENERAL ASSEMBLY. -- MORE

1829MST 21 01 89

R E698 AAE
MUSA-MAHATHIR 3 KUALA LUMPUR R R R

ON JOHOR UMNO, DATUK MUSA, A FORMER DEPUTY UMNO PRESIDENT, SAID THAT THROUGH HIS DISCUSSIONS WITH MENTERI BESAR TAN SRI HAJI MUHYIDDIN YASSIN AND OTHER UMNO LEADERS IN JOHOR BAHARU RECENTLY, HE WAS INFORMED THAT THE UMNO BRANCH MEETINGS WENT ON SMOOTHLY AND ON SCHEDULE.

HE SAID THE BRANCH MEETINGS HAD BEEN FIXED FOR NEXT MONTH AND THOSE WHO ATTENDED THEM WOULD HAVE THEIR POSITIONS CONFIRMED.

AT THE SEMINAR'S DIALOGUE SESSION, DATUK MUSA SAID HE HAD NEVER SUPPORTED THE ACTIONS OF THE GROUP WHICH DRAGGED UMNO TO COURT LEADING TO THE PARTY BEING DECLARED UNLAWFUL.

DATUK MUSA SAID HE ALSO DID NOT SUPPORT PARTI SEMANGAT 46 AND ADDED THAT IN FACT FORMER JOHOR MENTERI BESAR TAN SRI HAJI OTHMAN SAAT, ONE OF THAT PARTY'S LEADERS, DID NOT ACCEPT HIM.

HE SAID HE NEVER ASKED HIS SUPPORTERS TO FOLLOW HIS ACTIONS (TO STAY OUT OF UMNO AT THAT TIME) AND THAT THEY DID SO VOLUNTARILY. --
MORE

1847MST 21 01 89

R E699 AAE
MUSA-MAHATHIR 4 KUALA LUMPUR R R R

DATUK MUSA SAID HE HAD ONLY WANTED TO HELP THE MALAYS IN JOHOR TO RETURN TO UMNO, MORE SO AFTER LEARNING THAT ONLY 60,000 PEOPLE IN JOHOR HAD REJOINED UMNO AT THAT TIME COMPARED WITH 250,000 BEFORE THE PARTY WAS DECLARED UNLAWFUL.

HOWEVER, HE SAID, AFTER HE REJOINED UMNO, THE PARTY MEMBERSHIP IN JOHOR SOARED TO 213,000, THE HIGHEST AMONG THE STATES. -- BERNAMA
1850MST 21 01 89