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Mahathir - Freedom

(2)

MRT, May 24 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today powerful nations were curbing international freedom by interfering in the affairs of smaller nations.

He said the bigger countries had the tendency to overpower the smaller ones.

+Where is the freedom if what the small countries wanted to do is blocked by them?+ he said.

He was commenting on a report released by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) yesterday that categorised Malaysia as having a low human freedom despite having high levels of human development compared with other nations.

The UNDP Human Development Report 1991 ranked Malaysia at 55th among 88 countries in the Human Freedom Index introduced for the first time.

Speaking to newsmen here, the Prime Minister said the report was not fair as it only touched on citizens freedom but not freedom between countries which had been jeopardised now.--more.

♥24/05/19-10MST

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Mahathir - Freedom 2 Mini

He cited as example Malaysia's proposal to form the East Asia Economic Grouping (EARG), the idea of which had been objected by certain powerful countries.

Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir said it seemed that whatever things small nations wanted to do must be referred to them.

+So where is democracy?+ the Prime Minister asked, adding that Malaysia did not claim to be a power but it was clear that +they are a power in the area.+

He said there was definitely human freedom in Malaysia but not that to riot in the streets and burn houses.

He also questioned the freedom practised by the international press which used to black out anything he said that was factual and yet they could write dirty things about Malaysia which could not be replied back.--more.

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Mahathir - Freedom 3 Mini

The Prime Minister said the people in the country now was quite happy with their freedom and asked whether there was any freedom when the colonialists ruled this country.

+Did they allow us to elect our representatives? But the moment we ruled ourselves they talked about freedom,+ the Prime Minister said, adding that in the past the colonialists used to arrest people and did not give them any say in the governing of this country.

+Suddenly when we become independent they question our freedom,+ he added.

Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir said in certain western country the immigrants who were not of the same colour as theirs would not have any freedom and instead were oppressed.

He said the aborigines in Australia were badly treated and were +used to be shot like dogs+ while in this country the aborigines were well-looked after and provided with good health and medical care. -- more.

♥24/05/19-53MST

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Mahathir - Freedom 4 Mini

+The Australian aborigines have no education, dying, constantly being arrested and put in jail. Although their population is small, their number in Australian prisons is much bigger and they always hang themselves in there,+ he added.

The Prime Minister said the foreigners thought they could run this country better than Malaysians but they could not even run their own country.

Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir said a foreign news magazine, The Economist, reported that the national car Proton Saga was a Japanese car but then the British had been exporting Japanese-made Nissan cars as British-made.

He said one Japanese-made car called +Honda Legend+ which was imported by Britain had been branded as +Sterling.+

The Prime Minister also said the British was trying to run down Malaysia's industry by importing Japanese technology.--Bernama.

♥24/05/19-59MST