

CNS8299

R GE 10-12 00201 EA968

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Mahathir-Rulers

MAHATHXR CONFIDENT RULERS WILL CONSENT TO CONSTITUTION REVIEW

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KUALA LUMPUR, Dec 14 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad is confident the Conference of Rulers would give consent if a review of the Constitution is made with regard to the concept that the King does no wrong.

+I am confident consent will be forthcoming if what we want to do is for the good. If there is no consent, it would be a problem,+ he told reporters after opening a national course for Muslim clergy at the National Institute of Public Administration (Intan) in Bukit Kiara, here, today.

He was asked about the provision in the Federal Constitution which says that any amendment to the Constitution with regard to the status and special position of the Rulers must first receive the consent of the Rulers.

A cross-section of the people have called for the Constitution to be amended following the police report lodged by Maktab Sultan Abu Bakar (MSAB) hockey coach Douglas Gomez who alleged he was beaten by the Sultan of Johor in Istana Bukit Serene, Johor Baharu, on Nov 30. -- more

♥10/12/14-11MST

CNS8303

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Mahathir-Rulers 2 Kuala Lumpur

Dr Mahathir said the government was ready to make an all-round review to improve the prevailing situation.

+I am confident, although the Constitution has specific provisions, that it is impossible that the Constitution itself allows a matter that contradicts the law to be done without restriction,+ he added.

This was because existing laws were meant to protect everyone from all oppression.

He said: +But, if there are laws or anything in the Constitution which encourages oppression, I think that is a conflict with the principles of law.

+I don't think that is the aim of the Constitution.+ -- more

♥10/12/14-16MST

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R GE 10-12 001.93 EA974

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ATTENTION EDITORS : Correction

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In item +Mahathir-Rulers+, please read in second graf of third take. . .  
+In Malaysia, there are no . . . rpt NO intrusions like that. . .

Here is the corrected version. " "

Mahathir-Rulers 3 (last) Kuala Lumpur ..

Dr Mahathir, 'who was asked for his comments on' the razing of the ancient Babri Mosque in Ayodhya, India, by militant Hindus, said Malaysia had lodged its protest over the incident and called on the Indian government to take appropriate action.

+In Malaysia, there are no intrusions like that, + he' added, stressing the need for all religions to respect the beliefs of others without invading religious rights.

He also -said Malaysia supported the United Nations peacekeeping mission to Somalia and he hoped a similar decision could be made for Bosnia-Herzegovina.

+We are prepared to send our soldiers to Somalia if required and if there, is a decision to do the same in Bosnia-Herzegovina, we are ready to go there, + he added

Dr Mahathir regretted -that nothing had been done for Bosnia-Herzegovina although the torture and killing there was clearly apparent to the world community. -- Rernama

10/12/15-39MST