

CNS1339

R PK 01-09 00179 KA214

aae tbe

Mahathir-Sabah

PBS OVERTURES TO REPAIR TIES WITH FEDERAL GOVERNMENT LACK SINCERITY

bm

KUCHING, Sept. 11 (Bernama) -- Overtures by Parti Bersatu Sabah (PBS) leaders to repair ties with the Federal government lack sincerity, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today.

"I must say after our experience how they played politics during the last general elections, we have doubts whether their intention is genuine," he told reporters at the international airport here before leaving for Labuan.

The Prime Minister was in Kuching since last Monday to attend official celebrations to mark National Day, held for the first time here, and 30 years of Sarawak's independence through Malaysia.

Dr Mahathir made it clear it was not the people of Sabah but leaders in the state government who were insincere.

Sabah government leaders gave more importance to their political stand and harped on the issue of Sabah for Sabahans as if Sabah was not a part of Malaysia, he said. -- more

AHM MPA LDB

▼01/09/11-48MSF

R PK 01-09 00171 KA215

aae tbe

Mahathir-Sabah 2 Kuching

He said Sabah government leaders felt they could gain popularity by playing on certain sentiments.

Dr Mahathir said that on the other hand, the Sarawak government did not harp on sentiments but projected efficiency and smooth administration to develop Sarawak.

He added that his call for a balance between state and national interests was to prevent a disruption in the administrative processes between the state governments and federal government.

Malaysia was a federal state with power shared between the state governments and the federal government and this should not be abused by any group, he said.

"At times, if such power is abused it will cause differences between the state governments and federal government and affect the administration process and development," he added.

When there was co-operation between the federal government and state governments, all administrative matters between them functioned smoothly and benefitted the people, he said. -- more

AHM MPA LDB

▼01/09/11-55MSF

see the

Mahathir-Sabah 3 (last) Kuching

Dr. Mahathir said the close and cordial relations between the Sarawak government and the federal government brought great benefit to all groups, especially Sarawak.

Everyone concerned did not waste time and money adopting a confrontational attitude when the state government did not have a stand of opposing the federal government, he added.

He was moved by the spirit shown by the people of Sarawak who demonstrated their feelings of being Malaysians.

Touching on the setting up Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (Unimas), the first full university in Sarawak and Sabah, he said it could lead to the opening of more universities in the two states.

This, however, depended on the demand in both states for places in institutions of higher learning, he added. -- Bernama

AHM MPA LDB.

01/09/12-01MST