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Mahathir - winding  
PM BELIEVES AMENDMENT CAN ELIMINATE CORRUPTION IN PARTY  
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KUALA LUMPUR, June 19 (Bernama) -- Datuk Seri Dr. Mahathir

Mohamad hopes that there will be no more corrupt practices among Umno members following the approval of the amendment to party constitution to curb money politics.

The Prime Minister said based on the mood of the debate and the unanimous approval of the amendment, he believed that Umno members had realised the evil of corrupt practices and wanted to eliminate them.

Dr Mahathir said he was confident that the amendment would be able to eliminate corruption in the party.

He was winding up the debate on the amendment at the Special Umno General Assembly here this evening.

He said the situation during last party election, where money politics was rampant among the contestants, caused the amendment to be made to curb the evil practice before it could destroy the party.

Corruption in the party at that time was about to reach a stage as if money politics was accepted by all and payments were made openly on the table, he said.

The situation, he said, was more dangerous than normal corruption which was done secretly as such practice was despised by the society.

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♥19/06/22-01MST

ED113  
R PE 19-06 00140  
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Mahathir - winding 2 Kuala Lumpur

Dr Mahathir reminded Umno members that corruption in Umno, if allowed to continue, would lead to corrupt practices in government administration.

For example in Sabah, corruption in party had led to corrupt practices in the government causing the people to lose confidence in the leadership, he said.

"Although we are able to bribe all the members, we will not be able to bribe all the voters during the general election," he said.

The Prime Minister wanted party members to help eliminate money politics as an effort to ensure Umno's stability.

"The people will reject us if we are irresponsible towards them," he said, adding that if this happened Umno's hope of remaining in power to achieve Vision 2020 would be jeopardised.--more

♥19/06/22-04MST

ED114

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Mahathir - winding 3 Kuala Lumpur

On the implementation of the amended clauses, Dr Mahathir assured the delegates that there would be no miscarriage of justice against anyone as the "filtering process" would be done at all levels and not by the supreme council disciplinary committee alone.

"But if all sectors refuse to act against corrupt practices in the party, including the disciplinary committee, it means that Umno has reached a dangerous stage," he said.

He said no one would be punished without thorough investigations.

Dr Mahathir advised those wishing to donate to the party to channel their contributions direct to party headquarters and not to the divisions or branches.

He said such contributions should not only be made during party election as this could be misconstrued as a means to gain influence.--more

♥19/06/22-06MST

ED115

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Mahathir - winding 4 (last) Kuala Lumpur

He respected the attitude of some Umno veterans who had stepped down voluntarily to make way for the younger leaders and continued to serve the party in other ways. One of them is Tan Sri Aishah Ghani.

"If this attitude prevails, money politics will not surface and Umno will continue to be strong," he said.

However, he regretted that there were also former leaders who took the non-committal attitude.--Bernama

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