

20/11/1997

More States pledge full support for Dr M

IPOH, Wed. - The Perak State Assembly at its third day of sitting today unanimously passed a motion of support for the leadership of Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

The motion was tabled by Menteri Besar Tan Sri Ramli Ngah Talib and seconded by Datuk Padil Harun (BN-Lintang).

All the Assemblymen including the sole DAP member from Sitiawan Hu Chan You supported the motion.

They also condemned the action by 34 United States Congressmen to move a draft resolution in the US Congress calling on Dr Mahathir to apologise for his alleged anti-Jewish remarks, failing which he should resign as Prime Minister.

Ramli told the assembly that Dr Mahathir, while protesting over several international issues, had also contributed to help the people of several countries in need of help due to war and crisis.

Supporting the motion, Yik Phooi Hong (BN-Buntong) said under the Prime Minister's leadership Malaysia had become a role model to the world as a multi- social and multi-religious nation.

He reminded US Congressmen that Malaysia was an independent country and not a colony of the United States and the people would not allow outside forces to intervene in the country's policies and to smear the image of the Prime Minister.

S. Veerasingam (BN-Sungkai) described the action by the American Congressmen as an effort to fish for votes in the next election and also to look for financial aid in their campaign.

"The people of the United States must remember Malaysia is not against the country but we are only protesting on issues, including superpowers taking advantage of small and poor countries."

Siew Kok Kan (BN-Sepetang) said while Malaysia respected the law and policies of other countries, she hoped others would respect hers in return.

She added that the US Congressmen calling for the resignation of a democratic leader was out of context.

Hu Chan You (DAP-Sitiawan) said as an independent country, Malaysia should be allowed to chart its future without being threatened by other countries.

In Alor Star, Kedah Menteri Besar Tan Sri Sanusi Junid today pledged the State's support for Dr Mahathir, saying people have been behind the Prime Minister and more so now.

Sanusi said the question of whether the State supported the Prime Minister would never arise as it had always stood by Dr Mahathir.

"We stand firm by Dr Mahathir ... not just the State Government but people from all walks of life.

"We support his leadership, his many contributions and struggles for the country," Sanusi said after the State Exco meeting.

In Seremban, the Negeri Sembilan Umno liaison committee pledged its support for Dr Mahathir.

Menteri Besar and State Umno chief Tan Sri Mohamad Isa Abdul Samad condemned the action by the 34 US Congressmen.

Mohamad Isa said the Congressmen had no business to meddle in the administration of the country and its leaders who were elected by the rakyat democratically.

Speaking after chairing the liaison committee meeting at Wisma Negri, he said, the committee regretted the irresponsible action of the Congressmen who were insensitive to the feelings of the Malaysian people.

In Kuala Lumpur, the Malaysian Association of Singers, Musicians and Song Writers will organise a gathering of artistes and cultural figures at the Merdeka Square on Nov 29 to express support for Dr Mahathir.

Papita president Abdul Rahman Hassan in a statement today said the association would hold discussions with the leaders of other associations such as Gapena, Penyar, Seniman, FDAM, PPFM, RIM, MUM, Malep and Tema to create a special committee for the gathering.

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