

24 NOV 1997

Assembly-Motion (Perlis)

PERLIS ASSEMBLY PASSED SUPPORT DR M MOTION

KANGAR, Nov 24 (Bernama) -- The Perlis State Assembly here today passed a motion supporting the leadership of Datuk Seri Dr Mathir Mohamad and his moves in dealing with current issues, particularly the foreign attempts to interfere with the national administration.

The five-point motion was tabled by Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Shahidan Kassim and supported by Land, Forestry and Environment Committee Chairman Che Ah binti Long.

It said among others, that Malaysia would continue to defend the principles of multi-racial tradition of respects for each other, under the leadership of Dr Mahathir as Prime Minister, and rejecting the allegation that Dr Mahathir was against any particular race, including Jews.

A strong protest against several United States Congressmen for their wanton allegation against Dr Mahathir, and their violation of nation's sovereignty and its people over the democratic rights in the choice of leadership was also outlined.

Further it strongly rejected any American proposal for action against Petronas over its legitimate investments in the Iranian gas field as a violation of the free trade policy, upheld by the international community.

The same motion also expressed undivided support for Dr Mahathir in his efforts to resolve the present economic crisis and revive the national economy.

Shahidan said Dr Mahathir's leadership had brought excellent achievements in the various sectors, including the economy that Malaysia would soon achieve the developed nation status.

During question time, Shahidan said the state was charging investors "minimal" investment fees, but promised more lucrative returns on investment in view of its position within the framework of the Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand growth triangle (IMT-GT), he said.

Perlis was in the heart of the IMT-GT region with a 25 million population and as such it was enjoying the best investment climate.

Responding to an oral question from Karim Salleh (BN-Sanglang), Shahidan said the low cost of living and cheap labour had been taken into account by investors.

Since 1987, Perlis had received foreign investment amounting to over RM3.1 billion and efforts would continue to be made to attract more investors to the state.

Replying to Mohd Hadzi Nordin (BN-Kayang), he said the state government would declare 1998 as the Traditional Cake Year, to encourage its production.

This was decided following the failure of the kampung development and security committees (JKKK) to implement the one-kampung-one-product programme, initiated in 1994, he said.

To a question from Selamat Saad (BN-Sena), he said the proposed Perlis Islamic Institution of Higher Study (PIIHS), would be built at Semadong shortly, but initially the institute would be located at Kompleks Semarak Sungai Batu and Taman Bersatu KUB at Arau.

The assembly resumes sitting tomorrow.-BERNAMA

AD AR SK