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Mahathir-Jews

RINGGIT: THE JEWS HAD AN AGENDA, SAYS MAHATHIR

KUALA TERENGGANU, Oct 10 (BERNAMA) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today the government suspects the Jews, who are not happy to see the Muslims progress, of having an agenda.

Dr Mahathir said the government was not accusing the Jews of making speculative attacks on the ringgit but in reality the people doing it were Jews because U.S. financier George Soros was incidentally a Jew.

"And incidentally we are Muslims and the Jews are not happy to see the Muslims progress," he said at a show of support by the people and leaders of Terengganu at the Sultan Mahmud airport, here.

Dr Mahathir said that if viewed in Palestine, the Jews robbed the Palestinians of everything but in Malaysia they could not do so, hence they do this (depress the ringgit).

"We may suspect that they (the Jews) have an agenda but we do not want to accuse," he said.

He said it had happened not only to Malaysia but Indonesia, the biggest Muslim country, had also become their victim.

However, the prime minister said the country could fact this problem if all strata of society were united and disciplined in tackling it.

Dr Mahathir said that previously many countries had fallen victim to "currency robbers but when we object they say this is a free market.

"If it is a free market, we cannot rob in the market...if (you) want to buy, buy at a reasonable price. That is why we are angry and we criticise them," he said.

He questioned that if this was a free market, why had they robbed Mexico, Brazil, Argentina, Poland and other countries of their money.

He also questioned whether future civilisations were prepared to defend such "criminals" while the poor nations became poorer because of their actions.

The prime minister reiterated that the government had its own way of overcoming the problem but it was not time to implement it and he called on the people to stand solidly behind the government in the matter.

Dr Mahathir also said that the western press had suggested a change of leadership by appointing Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim in his place.

"It's not that they love my deputy but (it is) to topple me," he said.

Dr Mahathir said that even if Anwar replaced him, Anwar would probably face the same problem because they were not happy with the country's current success.

He said he had seen such a plot himself when they brought down the ringgit when he spoke in Hong Kong recently.

"Similarly, when I spoke in Santiago, Chile, during my visit to that country, they again depressed the ringgit to shut me up."

Dr Mahathir said Malaysia was free to speak because it had an independent administration and was not dependent on anyone.

He stressed that Malaysia's freedom to speak was not only for its own interest but also to defend the rights of other developing nations which could not voice out their problems.

The developing countries could not speak for fear that the developed nations would attack them because their administrations depended on the foreign countries but they would definitely support Malaysia, he added.

The prime minister believed that with the support of the people all

problems could be overcome.

"Thank God that we can administer our own country according to our own wishes and needs... for 40 years we worked hard in facing problems including racial riots but we were able to build an industrial nation.

"Actually this support from the people have given me the spirit to face so many (parties) who oppose and criticise every action we take," he said.

Dr Mahathir also thanked the people for expressing their support for him and the government. -- BERNAMA

SBS RON JK