

25 NOV 1998

Assembly-Melaka (resolution)

MELAKA STATE ASSEMBLY PROTEST AGAINST FOREIGN INTERFERENCE

MELAKA, Nov 25 (Bernama) -- The Melaka State Assembly today passed an emergency resolution criticising very strongly any foreign interference in the country's internal affairs.

The motion tabled by Chief Minister Datuk Seri Abu Zahar Isnin (BN-Merlimau) reads: "That the House takes a resolution criticising very strongly and does not want any form of interference by foreign powers in the internal affairs of our country Malaysia, with malicious intent, inciting and confusing the peoples' stand so as to jeopardise solidarity, harmony, peace and security of the country which had long been established."

The motion was supported by Datuk Poh Ah Tiam (BN-Bukit Sedanan) and was approved by majority vote by 18 State Assemblymen from Barisan Nasional who were present after the debate which was also participated by Opposition Leader Sim Ting Him (DAP-Bandar Hilir).

Sim and two other members from the DAP abstained when the motion was being passed.

When tabling the motion, Abu Zahar said the speech by American Vice President Al Gore during the official dinner by Malaysia in honour of the APEC Heads of Governments recently was a very rude and "kurang ajar" act.

"His action reflected as though he was championing democracy, human rights and world peace, while his main agenda actually was to create chaos worldwide.

"This is so that through riots, the recognised government elected through democratic process would be toppled, and subsequently replaced by a government and puppet leader chosen by them," Abu Zahar said.

It was clear, according to Abu Zahar, that the intention of the President Clinton's administration was to humiliate and cow all nations which were not in agreement with them.

The Chief Minister said thus it was not surprising that the series of demonstrations in Malaysia and in the neighbouring country were due to the incitement of foreign elements especially superpowers such as the United States.

Six resolutions were stated in the motion, among them, that the US action went out of international diplomatic norms, the US were not ashamed of violating the sovereignty of another nation and the US move to support the reform movement could further inflame anti-government sentiments.

Abu Zahar called on the people of Melaka in particular to give their solid support to the leadership of Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

Poh said the motion was important as it involved the integrity of a sovereign and independent nation.

Debating on the motion, Sim said the Malaysian government should be more sensitive and responsive to the needs of human rights.

-- BERNAMA

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