

NO33: (F)  
MAHATHIR-MCA  
BM

KUALA LUMPUR, SEPT. 19 (BERNAMA) — DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMAD TODAY REMINDS ALL COMPONENT PARTIES IN THE BARISAN NASIONAL TO BE CAREFUL BEFORE MAKING ANY DEMAND.

+IF WE ARE NOT CAREFUL, WE WILL BE FACED WITH A SITUATION IN WHICH, AS THE MALAY SAYING GOES, WHAT WE ARE AFTER ELUDES US AND WHAT WE ALREADY HAVE WE LOSE, + HE SAID.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID HE WAS AWARE OF THE DEMANDS BEING MADE BY THE COMMUNITIES AND PARTIES IN THE COUNTRY, SOME OF WHICH WERE EXTREME.

+AS PRIME MINISTER AND BARISAN NASIONAL CHAIRMAN, I WILL ADOPT A MODERATE ATTITUDE BUT WILL BE FIRM AND REJECT DEMANDS FROM WHICHEVER QUARTER THAT MIGHT NOT BE ACCEPTABLE BY OTHERS, + HE SAID.

OPENING THE 29TH MCA GENERAL ASSEMBLY AT THE WISMA MCA HERE, HE SAID +I AM AWARE OF HOW MUCH I CAN GIVE AND HOW MUCH I CAN TAKE.

+IF I AM NOT FIRM, THE CONSEQUENCES WOULD BE SERIOUS, NOT ONLY FOR MY OWN WELF BUT ALSO FOR THE COUNTRY AND THOSE WHO MAKE SUCH DEMANDS. + — BERNAMA MORE 1355/1B

NO34: (F)  
MAHATHIR-MCA 2 KUALA LUMPUR

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID THAT IT WAS THE ROLE OF EVERY POLITICAL PARTY TO FIGHT FOR THE INTERESTS OF ITS MEMBERS AND SUPPORTERS.

HOWEVER, RESPONSIBLE PARTIES SHOULD KNOW THAT THERE WERE MATTERS THAT COULD BE FOUGHT FOR AND THOSE THAT WERE NON-STARTERS.

HE STRESSED THAT THE BARISAN NASIONAL GOVERNMENT'S POLICIES THAT WERE TRIED AND TESTED AND ACCEPTED BY THE MAJORITY OF MALAYSIANS OF ALL COMMUNITIES SHOULD BE PRESERVED.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID HE WOULD CONTINUE THE STATUS QUO THAT HAD BUILT UP BY THE PREVIOUS PRIME MINISTERS.

HE SAID THAT IN A DEMOCRATIC COUNTRY, THE WISHED OF ONE PERSON, THOUGH HE WAS THE PRIME MINISTER, WOULD NOT ENSURE SUCCESS.

TO ACHIEVE SUCCESS, A LARGE PART OR MAJORITY OF THE PEOPLE SHOULD SHARE THAT VIEW. — BERNAMA MORE 1357/1B

NO35: (F)  
MAHATHIR-MCA 3 KUALA LUMPUR

HE SAID THAT IN MALAYSIA, AT LEAST THE COMPONENT PARTIES OF THE BARISAN NASIONAL WHICH FORMED THE GOVERNMENT, SHOULD HOLD SIMILAR VIEWS, ESPECIALLY THAT THE MAINTENANCE OF THE STATUS QUO WAS VITAL FOR THE COUNTRY'S SUCCESS.

HE SAID THAT AS ONE OF THE THREE LARGEST COMPONENT PARTIES IN THE BARISAN NASIONAL, THE MCA PLAYED AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN THE EFFORTS TO CREATE STABILITY AND PROSPERITY IN THE COUNTRY.

IF THE STATUS QUO WAS IMPORTANT FOR MALAYSIA, THEN THE MCA AS A RESPONSIBLE PARTY SHOULD STRIVE TO PRESERVE IT.

IF THE MCA, FOR CERTAIN REASONS, TRIED TO CHANGE THAT BALANCE OR IN OTHER WORDS DISTURB THE STATUS QUO, IT WOULD BE DESTABILISE THE BARISAN NASIONAL.

+IN SUCH A SITUATION, WE WILL NOT BE ABLE TO CONTINUE WITH THE DEVELOPMENT AND ACHIEVE SUCCESS THAT WE HAVE BEEN ENJOYING ALL THIS TIME, + HE SAID.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR ALSO HOPED THAT THE MCA, WHICH HAD HELPED TO FRAU UP THE NEW ECONOMIC POLICY, WOULD ASSIST THE GOVERNMENT TO EXPEDITE THE ACHIEVEMENT OF ITS OBJECTIVES. — BERNAMA MORE 1407/1B

MAHATHIR-MCA 4 KUALA LUMPUR

WHEN THE OBJECTIVES OF THE NEW ECONOMIC POLICY HAD BEEN ACHIEVED, THERE WOULD NO LONGER BE THE NEED FOR CHANNELLING VAST AMOUNTS OF ENERGY, TIME AND MONEY FOR PROGRAMMES UNDER THE POLICY.

HOWEVER, IF, DUE TO INTERFERENCE OR UNFOUNDED FEELINGS OF ANXIETY, THE EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE THESE OBJECTIVES WERE MET WITH COUNTER EFFORTS TO REDUCE THE EFFECTS OF SUCH EFFORTS, THEN EVEN MORE ENERGY, TIME AND MONEY WOULD HAVE TO BE SPENT TO MAKE IT SUCCEED, HE SAID.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THAT WHEN THE OBJECTIVES OF THE NEW ECONOMIC POLICY HAD BEEN ACHIEVED, THE PEOPLE OF MALAYSIA NEED NO LONGER +COMPETE AGAINST EACH OTHER BUT INSTEAD WE CAN LINK ARMS AND WORK TOGETHER TO BUILD A GREATER MALAYSIA.+

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR SAID MALAYSIA POSSESSED GREAT POTENTIALS AND ALL THE INGREDIENTS TO DEVELOP TO THE LEVEL OF THE ADVANCED COUNTRIES.

+WHAT IS NEEDED FROM EVERY ONE OF US, FROM ALL PARTIES AND COMMUNITIES IS LEVEL-HEADEDNESS AND THE WILL TO WORK, + HE SAID.

HE ALSO REMINDED THE ASSEMBLY THAT CHEAP POPULARITY WAS FOR OPPOSITION PARTIES, ADDING THAT +FOR YOU AND I, THERE IS ONLY THE BURDEN OF RESPONSIBILITY AND THE NEED TO WORK FOR THE NATION.+—

BERNAMA 1427/1B