

MAHATHIR -- UMNO  
BM

PARIT BUNTAR, AUG 7<sup>8</sup> (BERNAMA)--DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMED  
TODAY REMINDED UMNO MEMBERS TO MAINTAIN PARTY DISCIPLINE TO ENSURE  
CONTINUITY OF THE PARTY'S POLITICAL POWER.

ANY SPLIT AMONG MEMBERS AND UNCONSTITUTIONAL ACTS, WERE BOUND  
TO WEAKEN UMNO, HE SAID.

+IF UMNO BECOMES WEAK, THE GOVERNMENT WILL BECOUSE UNSTABLE  
AND THIS WILL NOT BENEFIT THE MALAYS,+ DATUK SRI DR. MAHATHIR  
SAID WHEN OPENING THE PARIT BUNTAR UMNO DELEGATES' 20TH DIVISIONAL  
MEETING HERE TODAY.

THE PRIME MINISTER REGRETTED THAT SOME MEMBERS PLACED TOO  
MUCH IMPORTANCE ON +PERSONALITIES+ WHEN ELECTING DIVISIONAL LEADERS,  
EVEN TO THE EXTENT OF TRANSGRESSING PARTY RULES AND DEVIATING FROM  
UMNO'S ORIGINAL PURPOSE.

HE EXPLAINED THAT POSTS IN THE PARTY WERE CREATED NOT TO BENEFIT THE INCUMBENTS BUT TO ENABLE THEM TO SERVE THE MALAYS. +IT IS SAD TO NOTE THAT THERE ARE SOME PEOPLE, WHO, AFTER FAILING TO BE ELECTED, WITHDREW FROM BEING ACTIVE IN THE PARTY,+ HE SAID. --MORE 1715/MD

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DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR SAID THE PARTY'S STRENGTH WAS BASED ON DISCIPLINE AND THE SMOOTH FUNCTIONING OF THE PARTY.

+ALTHOUGH THERE MAY BE SOME MEMBERS WHO DISAGREE WITH CERTAIN ASPECTS OF OUR POLICY, MEMBERS GENERALLY TEND TO ABIDE BY MAJORITY DECISIONS.

+THIS IS THE BASIS OF OUR STRENGTH AND MY HOPE THAT IT WILL BE MAINTAINED, + HE SAID.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR, WHO IS THE PRESIDENT OF UMNO, SAID HE HAD DECIDED TO ASK THE MENTERI BESAR OF PERAK, DATUK SERI WAN MOHAMED WAN TEH, TO CONTINUE TO HEAD THE PARIT BUNTAR UMNO DIVISION FOR AT LEAST ANOTHER YEAR TO ENABLE MEMBERS +TO PUT THEIRHOUSE IN ORDER.+

DATUK SERI WAN MOHAMED WAS APPOINTED BY THE UMNO SUPREME COUNCIL TO HEAD PARIT BUNTAR UMNO IN 1980, FOLLOWING IT SUSPENSION OVER A LEADERSHIP CRISIS.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR, WHEN OPENING THE KEPALA BATAS, SEBERANG PERAI, UMNO DELEGATES' DIVISIONAL MEETING EARLIER, SAID UMNO WAS THE STRONGEST AND BIGGEST POLITICAL PARTY IN THE COUNTRY WITH SOME 750,000 REGISTERED MEMBERS. --MORE 1740/MD  
SECOND PARA SHOULD READ: ASPECTS OF IN OUR POLICY, (RPT) OF IN OUR

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DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR SAID HE WISHED TO SEE UMNO'S MEMBERSHIP DRIVE, PARTICULARLY AMONG YOUTHS AND FORMER MEMBERS OF OPPOSITION PARTIES, KEPT UP CONTINUOUSLY FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE MALAYS.

HE ALSO SAID THE GOVERNMENT WAS THINKING OF WAYS TO INCREASE THE PEOPLE'S EFFICIENCY AS A FOLLOW-UP TO THE PRESENT CAMPAIGN AMONG GOVERNMENT OFFICERS.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR SAID IT WAS NOT SUFFICIENT FOR GOVERNMENT OFFICERS ALONE TO BE ASKED TO IMPROVE ON THEIR FORMANCE IF THE PEOPLE WERE NOT PREPARED TO DO THE SAME.

HE SAID THAT IF ALL MALAYSIANS, INCLUDING THOSE IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR, GOVERNMENT, OR WHO WERE SELF-EMPLOYED, COULD INCREASE THEIR EFFICIENCY MALAYSIA COULD BE COMPETITIVE ON THE INTERNATIONAL MARKET.

AT PRESENT MADE-IN-MALAYSIA PRODUCTS COULD NOT PENETRATE CERTAIN MARKETS BECAUSE THEY WERE HIGHER-PRICED COMPARED TO THOSE FROM OTHER COUNTRIES.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR CITED THE EXAMPLE OF A CARPET MADE IN SOUTH KOREA WHICH WAS SOLD IN KUALA LUMPUR FOR \$1,100, WHEREAS A MADE-IN-MALAYSIA CARPET OF SIMILAR QUALITY AND SIZE ALREADY COST MORE THAN \$1,000 FOR LABOUR ALONE. --MORE 18120/MD

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+THIS SHOWS THAT WE HAVE NOT REACHED THE LEVEL OF EFFICIENCY TO ENABLE US TO PRODUCE GOODS AT LOWER COSTS,+ HE SAID.

MINISTER IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S DEPARTMENT DATUK ABDULLAH HAJI AHMAD BADAWI, WHO IS ALSO THE HEAD OF THE KEPALA BATAS UMNO DIVISION, SAID THE PULAU PINANG UMNO DIVISION WOULD HOLD A SPECIAL MEETING WITH CHIEF MINISTER DR LIM CHONG EU ON TUESDAY TO DISCUSS THE STRATEGIES OF HOW TO IMPROVE THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC POSITION OF THE PULAU PINANG MALAYS.

DATUK ABDULLAH SAID PULAU PINANG UMNO WOULD NOT COMPROMISE WITH ANYONE IN ITS STRUGGLE FOR THE RIGHTS OF THE MALAYS IN THE STATE. HOWEVER, PULAU PINANG UMNO ALSO SUBSCRIBED TO THE CONCEPT OF +MUSYAWARAH+ WHICH ACCORDING TO HIM COULD BRING BETTER UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE TWO PARTIES. --BERNAMA 1820/OM