

MAHATHIR  
BM

82 (P)  
KUALA LUMPUR, SEPT. 25 (BERNAMA) -- DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMAD TODAY REMINDED BARISAN NASIONAL COMPONENT PARTIES NOT TO LOOK AT MATTERS FROM THEIR PARTY'S PERSPECTIVE ONLY BUT WITHIN THE CONTEXT OF THE BN AS A WHOLE.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THAT THE STRENGTH OF THE BN LAY IN THE COMPONENT PARTIES' ACCEPTANCE OF THE TWO PERSPECTIVES.

OPENING THE ANNUAL DELEGATES CONFERENCE OF THE PARTI GERAKAN RAKYAT MALAYSIA HERE, HE SAID THE BN'S VICTORY IN THE LAST GENERAL ELECTION CAME ABOUT AS A RESULT OF THE CONTRIBUTION BY ALL COMPONENT PARTIES.

+AS SUCH THE TWO PERSPECTIVES -- THAT OF THE PARTY AND THE OVERALL PERSPECTIVE OF THE BARISAN NASIONAL -- ARE IMPORTANT FOR US TO MAINTAIN OUR INTEGRITY,+ HE ADDED.

-- MORE 1255/AZ

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DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR SAID COMPONENT PARTIES OF THE BARISAN NASIONAL SHOULD NOT WORK FOR THE INTEREST OF THEIR OWN PARTY ALONE AS THIS WOULD AFFECT HARMONY IN AND FUNCTIONING OF THE BARISAN NASIONAL.

HE ALSO SAID THAT THE DEMOCRATIC SYSTEM BEING PRACTISED IN THE COUNTRY WAS UNIQUE AND THE SAME APPLIED TO THE DEMOCRATIC SYSTEMS IN OTHER LIBERAL COUNTRIES.

+EACH SYSTEM IS UNIQUE FOR A PARTICULAR COUNTRY. BECAUSE OF THIS, THE GOVERNMENT IS NOT WORRIED ALTHOUGH OUR DEMOCRATIC PERCEPTION HAD BEEN CRITICISED BY CERTAIN QUARTERS WHO CONSIDERED THEMSELVES AS CHAMPIONS OF DEMOCRACY+, HE SAID.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR SAID: +WE AS CITIZENS OF MALAYSIA SHOULD NOT WORRY WITH SUCH CRITICISM+.

--MORE 1315/AN

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THE PRIME MINISTER ALSO REMINDED BARISAN NASIONAL COMPONENT PARTIES THAT POLITICS ITSELF WAS NOT THE OBJECTIVE BUT MERELY A VEHICLE +TO ACHIEVE OUR OBJECTIVES+.

++ACCEPTING POLITICS AS THE OBJECTIVE CAN BLIND US IN OUR SEARCH FOR OUR GOALS LIKE PROSPERITY STABILITY AND HARMONY WHICH ARE THE ESSENTIALS OF A COUNTRY WHICH HAS ACHIEVED INDEPENDENCE, SOVEREIGNTY AND PROGRESS+, HE ADDED.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR, WHO ALSO TOUCHED ON THE INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC SITUATION, EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT THE WORLD ECONOMY WOULD RECOVER BY THE MIDDLE OF NEXT YEAR.

HE ALSO EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT A BASIS FOR A FAIR SOLUTION WOULD BE WORKED OUT FOR WEST ASIA AND THE SITUATION IN THE SOUTH EAST ASIA REGION WOULD BE STABILISED WITH A SOLUTION TO THE KAMPUCHEAN PROBLEM.

--MORE 1341/AN

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HE EXPRESSED FEAR THAT THE UNSTABLE ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL SITUATION RESULT IN MORE COMPLEX ECONOMIC, POLITICAL AND SOCIAL PROBLEMS THIS SITUATION NEEDED FIRM AND BRAVE ACTIONS BY ALL CONCERNED PARTICULARLY DEVELOPED AND POWERFUL NATIONS, HE ADDED.

DATUK SERI DR. MAHATHIR, WHO LEAVES FOR NEW YORK TONIGHT TO ATTEND THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY, SAID THAT MALAYSIA'S COOPERATION WITH ITS NEIGHBOURS IN INTERNATIONAL FORUMS PROVED ITS SINCERITY IN HELPING FIND A SOLUTION TO COMMON PROBLEMS. --BERNAMA 1414/OM