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MAHATHIR-MAJORITY
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KOTA KINABALU, JULY 7 (BERNAMA) -- MALAYSIA NEEDS A STRONG GOVERNMENT WITH MASSIVE SUPPORT FROM THE PEOPLE, DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD SAID TODAY.

WITH THE GOVERNMENT HAVING A MORE THAN TWO-THIRD MAJORITY SUPPORT IN PARLIAMENT, POLITICAL, ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL STABILITY WOULD BE ASSURED, HE SAID.

OPENING THE \$56 MILLION KOTA KINABALU INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT TERMINAL HERE THIS EVENING, HE SAID SINCE INDEPENDENCE MALAYSIA HAD HAD A STRONG GOVERNMENT WITH SUPPORT FROM THE VAST MAJORITY OF THE PEOPLE.

+THEY SHOULD TAKE NOTE OF THIS FACT BEFORE DECIDING AGAINST GIVING A BIG MAJORITY TO THE GOVERNMENT AS THIS WOULD RESULT IN THE COUNTRY'S STABILITY BEING JEOPARDISED,+ HE SAID.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID THERE WAS A GROUP OF PEOPLE IN THE COUNTRY THAT WAS NOT HAPPY WITH THE PRESENT STABILITY AND DID NOT WANT THE GOVERNMENT TO HAVE A TWO-THIRD MAJORITY.

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MAHATHIR-MAJORITY 2 KOTA KINABALU

+IF THEIR CAMPAIGN SUCCEEDS, THE COUNTRY'S POLITICAL, SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC STABILITY WILL BE UNDERMINED BECAUSE WITH A REDUCED MAJORITY THE GOVERNMENT WILL BE AFRAID TO TAKE ANY ACTION IN THE INTEREST OF THE PEOPLE,+ HE SAID.

+THE GOVERNMENT WILL BE AFRAID BECAUSE THERE IS A POSSIBILITY THAT GOVERNMENT MEMBERS WILL CROSS OVER TO THE OPPOSITION CONSIDERING THAT THE GOVERNMENT IS NO LONGER STRONG,+ HE SAID.

IN THEIR EFFORTS TO REDUCE THE PEOPLE'S SUPPORT FOR THE BARISAN NASIONAL GOVERNMENT, THE OPPOSITION PARTIES WERE PORTRAYING THE GOVERNMENT AS BEING SIMILAR TO THE FORMER MARCOS REGIME, HE SAID.

+THEY WANT TO CREATE A +MARCOS+ IN MALAYSIA AND I DON'T KNOW WHO IT WILL BE. THEY HOPE THAT +PEOPLE'S POWER+ WILL EMERGE SO THAT THEY CAN TAKE OVER THE GOVERNMENT,+ DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID.

HE SAID OPPOSITION GROUPS WERE ALSO DISCREDITING GOVERNMENT LEADERS THROUGH VARIOUS PUBLICATIONS. -- MORE
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MAHATHIR-MAJORITY 3 KOTA KINABALU

+THEY ARE USING ALL KINDS OF DIRTY TRICKS TO GAIN THE PEOPLE'S SUPPORT BUT I AM CONFIDENT THEIR EFFORTS WILL FAIL,+ HE SAID.

HE SAID THEIR ATTEMPTS AT FABRICATING TALES AND RAISING RACIAL AND RELIGIOUS ISSUES AND REGIONALISM WOULD ONLY GIVE RISE TO HATRED FOR ONE ANOTHER.

+WE MUST TAKE A LESSON FROM WHAT HAPPENED IN HISTORY IN 1969 RESULTING FROM INCITEMENT BY CERTAIN QUARTERS,+ HE SAID.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID THE PRESENT GOVERNMENT WAS NOT A MARCOS GOVERNMENT BUT A GOVERNMENT DESTINED TO BRING PROGRESS TO THE PEOPLE.

HE SAID MALAYSIA'S POLITICAL STABILITY AND RAPID PROGRESS HAD BEEN ACCLAIMED BY OTHER COUNTRIES. -- MORE
2026MST 07 07 86

U E884 AAE
MAHATHIR-MAJORITY 4 KOTA KINABALU

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THE GOVERNMENT TOOK A CERTAIN LINE OF ACTION ONLY AFTER ALL PARTIES IN THE BARISAN NASIONAL HAD AGREED TO IT.

+IF THE GOVERNMENT WANTS TO AMEND THE CONSTITUTION ALL PARTIES MUST AGREE. IN THE PRESENT COALITION GOVERNMENT NO SOLE BN PARTY CAN TAKE ANY EXTREME FORM OF ACTION,+ HE SAID.

THROUGH THIS, POLITICAL STABILITY WOULD BE ASSURED FOR BEFORE ANY ACTION WAS TAKEN, THE INTERESTS OF ALL COMMUNITIES WOULD BE CONSIDERED, HE SAID.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID THE GOVERNMENT COULD TAKE CERTAIN ACTION IN THE INTEREST OF THE PEOPLE THOUGH SUCH ACTION MIGHT NOT BE POPULAR OVERSEAS.

+THE GOVERNMENT CANNOT ALWAYS TAKE ACTION THAT IS POPULAR FOR IN THE INTEREST OF THE PEOPLE CERTAIN UNPOPULAR ACTIONS WILL ALSO HAVE TO BE TAKEN,+ HE SAID. -- MORE
2028MST 07 07 86

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U E885 AAE
MAHATHIR-MAJORITY 5 KOTA KINABALU

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID SABAH AT PRESENT WAS STABLE BECAUSE NO ONE COULD NOW QUESTION THE LEGITIMACY OF THE PRESENT PBS GOVERNMENT.

+WHEN I LAST CAME TO SABAH, THE STATE WAS LESS STABLE BECAUSE OF TROUBLE AND DEMONSTRATIONS AS THE PBS GOVERNMENT DID NOT HAVE A TWO-THIRD MAJORITY,+ HE SAID.

+BUT AFTER THE RECENT STATE ELECTION, PBS ACQUIRED MORE THAN A TWO-THIRD MAJORITY AND NO ONE CAN NOW QUESTION IT AND POLITICAL STABILITY HAS BEEN RESTORED,+ HE SAID.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID HE VALUED THE ROLE PLAYED BY PBS WHICH WAS NOW A MEMBER OF THE BARISAN NASIONAL.

+THIS MEANS ALL PARTIES IN SABAH WANT TO COOPERATE AND THIS WILL ENSURE POLITICAL STABILITY FOR THEY CAN JOINTLY DISCUSS ANY PROBLEMS,+ HE SAID. -- MORE
2029MST 07 07 86

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U E888 AAE
MAHATHIR-MAJORITY 6 KOTA KINABALU

THIS WAS IN THE INTEREST OF ALL COMMUNITIES IN THE STATE AND NOT JUST CERTAIN INDIVIDUALS, HE SAID.

WITH THE STABLE STATE GOVERNMENT HAVING THE SUPPORT OF THE VAST MAJORITY OF THE PEOPLE, THE STATE WOULD HAVE PEACE AND PROGRESS, HE SAID.

+ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD, COUNTRIES WON'T BE STABLE IF THE GOVERNMENTS ONLY HAVE MARGINAL MAJORITIES,+ HE SAID.

WITH LIMITED SUPPORT FROM THE PEOPLE, THE GOVERNMENT WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO ADMINISTER THE COUNTRY EFFECTIVELY AND THIS WOULD GIVE RISE TO PROBLEMS, HE SAID.

ALSO PRESENT WERE DATUK SERI DATIN PADUKA DR SITI HASMAH, CHIEF MINISTER DATUK JOSEPH PAIRIN KITINGAN, TRANSPORT MINISTER DATUK DR LING LIONG SIK, DEPUTY TRANSPORT MINISTER HAJAH RAHMAH OTHMAN AND STATE MINISTERS. -- BERNAMA
2034MST 07 07 86