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MAHATHIR-BN
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KUALA LUMPUR, JUNE 6 (BERNAMA) -- DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD TODAY URGED BARISAN NASIONAL COMPONENT PARTIES NOT TO BE ENVIOUS OF EACH OTHER'S SUCCESSES.

THE PRIME MINISTER AND BARISAN NASIONAL CHAIRMAN SAID THAT AS MEMBERS OF ONE +FAMILY,+ THE COMPONENT PARTIES IN THE COALITION SHOULD ALWAYS SUPPORT EACH OTHER.

+I DO BELIEVE THERE IS NO FEELING OF JEALOUSY BETWEEN COMPONENT PARTIES IN THE BN ON ACHIEVEMENTS BY ANY COMPONENT PARTY,+ HE SAID.

THE STRENGTH OF BN COMPONENT PARTIES COULD BE LIKENED TO THE SAYING +THE CHAIN WAS AS STRONG AS THE WEAKEST LINK,+ THE PRIME MINISTER SAID WHEN OPENING GERAKAN'S 16TH ANNUAL DELEGATES CONFERENCE AT THE DEWAN BAHASA DAN PUSTAKA HERE.

HE HOPED THAT ANY CHALLENGES FACED BY BN COMPONENT PARTIES COULD, AMONG OTHER THINGS, UPGRADE THE POLITICAL MATURITY OF THEIR MEMBERS. -- MORE
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DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID THAT ALTHOUGH AT PRESENT THERE WERE BN COMPONENT MEMBERS, INCLUDING UMNO AND GERAKAN, FACING CHALLENGES WITHIN THEIR OWN PARTIES, THIS WAS NO CAUSE FOR CONCERN.

FOR BN COMPONENT PARTIES, WHAT WAS MORE IMPORTANT WAS THE ENSURING OF UNITY AMONG THEMSELVES AND THEIR MEMBERS TO OVERCOME PROBLEMS LIKE THE ECONOMIC RECESSION AND POLITICAL AND SOCIAL TENSION, HE SAID.

HE EXPRESSED CONFIDENCE THAT BN COMPONENT PARTIES WHICH WERE FACING CHALLENGES WOULD BE ABLE TO OVERCOME THEM AND CONTINUE TO BE UNITED.

IT HAD BEEN PROVEN THAT EVEN THOUGH A COMPONENT PARTY HAD ITS UPS AND DOWNS, IT WAS CAPABLE OF BEING UNITED IN FACING THE GENERAL ELECTION AND VARIOUS OTHER CHALLENGES, DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID.

HE SAID THAT TRUE UNITY WAS ESSENTIAL AMONG BN COMPONENT PARTIES SO THAT THEY WOULD BE ABLE TO PROVIDE THE LEADERSHIP REQUIRED TOWARDS DEVELOPING THE COUNTRY. -- MORE
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DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID THE BN WAS NOT ONLY A MATURED PARTY AND EXPERIENCED IN STEERING THE NATION TO SUCCESS BUT WAS ALSO ACCEPTED BY ALL PEOPLE.

+THERE IS NO PARTY OTHER THAN THE BN WHICH CAN CLAIM OR HAS PROVEN ITS CAPABILITY IN REPRESENTING THE PEOPLE OF DIFFERENT RACES IN THE COUNTRY,+ HE SAID.

THIS WAS A FACT BECAUSE EVERY TIME AN ELECTION WAS HELD, INCLUDING THE RECENT GOPENG PARLIAMENTARY BY-ELECTION, THE PEOPLE HAD REJECTED THE APPEALS, CALLS AND PROMISES OF OTHER PARTIES, THE PRIME MINISTER SAID.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID THIS CONFIDENCE OF THE PEOPLE IN THE BN SHOULD BE PRESERVED BY THE COMPONENT PARTIES.

HE SAID IT MIGHT NOT BE POSSIBLE FOR THE BN TO ADMINISTER THE COUNTRY EFFECTIVELY IF IT SECURED LIMITED SUPPORT. -- BERNAMA
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