

2016MST 08 10 88

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MAHATHIR-BN
BN

SUBANG, OCT 8 (BERNAMA) -- DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD TODAY HIT OUT AT BARISAN NASIONAL ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES WHO HE SAID ARE NOW COOPERATING WITH THE OPPOSITION SOLELY FOR PERSONAL INTERESTS.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THEIR ACTIONS HAD DISAPPOINTED THE PEOPLE WHO HAD ELECTED THEM NOT FOR THEIR SAKE BUT BECAUSE OF THE BARISAN NASIONAL CAUSE.

THIS GROUP HAD IN THE PAST HURLED ALL KINDS OF ACCUSATIONS AGAINST THE OPPOSITION BUT WERE NOW COOPERATING WITH THE LATTER JUST BECAUSE THEY WERE NOT GIVEN POSTS OR THE POSITION THEY ASPIRED FOR, HE SAID.

HE WAS ADDRESSING A MAMMOTH CROWD AT TERMINAL TWO OF THE INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT HERE WHO TURNED UP TO WELCOME HIM HOME AFTER HIS THREE-WEEK TOUR OVERSEAS.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THESE ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES +CANNOT AT THEIR OWN WHIMS AND FANCIES SET ASIDE OUR PROMISES TO THE PEOPLE BECAUSE THIS WILL CAUSE THE PEOPLE TO LOSE FAITH IN THE BN AND WHEN THE PEOPLE LOSE FAITH, THE COUNTRY'S ADMINISTRATION WILL BE IN DISARRAY.+

AS SUCH, THOSE ELECTED ON A BN TICKET MUST CONTINUE TO SUPPORT THE RULING COALITION FOR POLITICAL STABILITY. -- MORE
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DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID POLITICAL STABILITY WAS VITAL, NOT ONLY FOR NATIONAL PROGRESS BUT FOREIGN INVESTORS.

DWING TO FOREIGN INVESTORS' CONFIDENCE IN MALAYSIA'S POLITICAL STABILITY, THE COUNTRY ENJOYED AN EIGHT-FOLD INCREASE IN INVESTMENTS IN THE FIRST HALF OF THIS YEAR COMPARED WITH THE SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR.

MALAYSIA'S ECONOMIC GROWTH HAD INCREASED NINE PERCENT, +A VERY BIG ACHIEVEMENT+ COMPARED WITH SOME DEVELOPED COUNTRIES IN EUROPE WHICH RECORDED ONE AND A HALF PERCENT GROWTH.

+IF THE POLITICAL SITUATION IS NOT STABLE, WE WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN ABLE TO ATTRACT FOREIGN INVESTMENTS,+ HE ADDED.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR, WHO IS ALSO BARISAN NASIONAL CHAIRMAN, DENIED CLAIMS OF THERE BEING A SPLIT IN THE BN BECAUSE OF CERTAIN PROBLEMS. -- MORE

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MAHATHIR-BN 3 SUBANG

HE SAID HE DID NOT SEE ANY SPLIT, ADDING THAT PROBLEMS WERE TO BE FOUND IN ANY POLITICAL PARTY, INCLUDING NONO-COMMUNAL PARTIES.

+SMALL PROBLEM LIKE THESE CAN BE RESOLVED AMONG OURSELVES,+ HE SAID, WHEN COMMENTING ON SPECULATIONS ABOUT THE NO-PAY LEAVE TAKEN BY MCA PRESIDENT DATUK DR LIM LIONS SIK. IT WAS REPORTED THE MCA LEADER'S DECISION STEMMED FROM DISSATISFACTION WITH BN'S PURPORTED FAILURE TO FULFIL CERTAIN PROMISES MADE TO THE CHINESE COMMUNITY.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID WHAT WAS IMPORTANT WAS THAT ALL SHOULD SUPPORT BN TO ENSURE THE COUNTRY'S ADMINISTRATION RAN SMOOTHLY.

HE SAID THAT BASED ON THIS TRUST, HE HAD LEFT ON HIS OVERSEAS TRIP WITH +A LIGHT HEART+, KNOWING THAT IN HIS ABSENCE, THE COUNTRY WOULD STILL BE SECURE AND PEACEFUL.

IN ADDITION, HE HAD CONFIDENCE IN THE +SUPPORTERS LEFT BEHIND+ LED BY DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER SHAFAR BABA AT FEDERAL LEVEL AND HENTERIS BESAR AND CHIEF MINISTERS AT STATE LEVEL, ALL OF WHOM WERE CAPABLE OF ENSURING THE COUNTRY REMAINED SECURE AND PEACEFUL. -- MORE
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MAHATHIR-BN 4 SUBANG

HE ALSO EXPRESSED HIS HAPPINESS WITH THE OUTCOME OF HIS TRIP, WHICH HE SAID HAD LED TO MANY FOREIGN LEADERS RECOGNISING MALAYSIA AS A PROGRESSIVE COUNTRY CAPABLE OF BEING ADMINISTERED AS AN INDEPENDENT NATION.

HE HAD EXPLAINED TO THE FOREIGN LEADERS AND MEDIA THAT ALTHOUGH MALAYSIA WAS MULTIRACIAL AND COSMOPOLITAN, ITS PEOPLE LIVED IN PEACE AND HARMONY. THIS STATEMENT WAS RECEIVED WITH SHOUTS OF +MAHATHIR NIRA+ (HERO) BY THE CROWD AT THE AIRPORT.

+HOW MANY OTHER NATIONS HAVING A PLURAL SOCIETY LIKE MALAYSIA HAVE ACHIEVED OUR KIND OF PROGRESS?+ ASKED THE PRIME MINISTER, WHO HAD NOT EXPECTED SUCH A GRAND WELCOME FOR HIS RETURN.

+IT IS TRUE THERE ARE MANY PROGRESSIVE COUNTRIES, BUT THEY HAVE A HOMOGENEOUS POPULATION AND NOT DIVERSE CULTURES OR LANGUAGES, WHICH HAD FACILITATED THEIR DEVELOPMENT PROCESS,+ HE SAID.

EARLIER, SELANGOR MENTERI BESAR DATUK MUHAMMAD HAJI MUHAMMAD TALIB SAID THE GATHERING WAS NOT MEANT TO PUT DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR ON A PEDESTAL BUT TO CELEBRATE THE RETURN HOME OF A NATIONAL LEADER WHO HAD CONTRIBUTED GREATLY TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE COUNTRY. --
MORE

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MAHATHIR-BN 5 SUBANG

HE SAID THE PRIME MINISTER'S VISIT WAS UNDERTAKEN TO HELP MAKE MALAYSIA BETTER-KNOWN THROUGHOUT THE WORLD.

THE PRIME MINISTER'S THREE-WEEK TOUR BEGINNING SEPT 17 HAD GREATLY CHANGED THE COUNTRY'S IMAGE IN THE EYES OF THE WORLD AND WAS ABLE TO CORRECT SEVERAL MISCONCEPTIONS BY OTHER COUNTRIES, HE ADDED.

DATUK MUHAMMAD SAID FOLLOWING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF POLICIES BY THE PRESENT GOVERNMENT, MALAYSIA HAD EXPERIENCED OUTSTANDING ECONOMIC GROWTH.

ALSO PRESENT WERE PERAK MENTERI BESAR DATUK SERI RAMLI NGAH TALIB, NEGERI SEMBILAN MENTERI BESAR DATUK MOHAMED ISA SAHAD, KELANTAN MENTERI BESAR DATUK MOHAMAD YAACOB, PAHANG MENTERI BESAR DATUK SERI KHALIL YAACOB, KEDAH MENTERI BESAR DATUK PADUKA OSMAN AROFF, MELAKA CHIEF MINISTER DATUK SERI RAHIM THAMBY CHIK, PRIMARY INDUSTRIES MINISTER DATUK DR LIM KHENG YAIK, LABOUR MINISTER LEE KIM SAI AND WORKS MINISTER DATUK S. SAMY VELLU.

ABOUT 30,000 PEOPLE, MOSTLY UMNO MEMBERS FROM THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY, HAD TURNED UP AT THE AIRPORT TO WELCOME THE PRIME MINISTER.

-- BERHAMA

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