

Some may take time, people told

# PM: Govt will honour all pledges

NSunT - 9 OCT 1988  
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**KUALA LUMPUR, Sat. — The Barisan Nasional Government will honour all its pledges to the people although it may take some time on some of them, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today.**

He said the BN would maintain its tradition of keeping its word because it wanted to keep the people's confidence in it.

Speaking at a special ceremony to welcome him home from his overseas trip, he said: "The people chose us because they want honest representatives to look after their welfare. And it is the duty of the Government to ensure that the welfare of the people is taken care of."

The Prime Minister said the BN's election into office by a large majority in 1986 was proof of the people's trust and support.

"They had faith in the BN and the reason they voted in the candidates was that they supported the BN, not the candidates individually.

"When we are nominated as BN candidates, we contest on the basis of being members of the coalition and to honour the pledges made in the coalition's manifesto. Surely we cannot turn our back on the promises we made to the people."

He said those who had gone to the opposition's side after winning in BN's name had broken their promise to the people.

"This group used to hurl all kinds of accusations against the opposition but are now co-operating with

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it just because they were not given posts or the position they aspired to.

"If the people in the respective constituencies had wanted representatives from the opposition, they would have voted in the candidates from the opposition parties."

Denying rumours of a split in the Barisan Nasional, he said: "There are some problems ... which is normal for a multi-racial coalition. We can solve it through negotiations and we will overcome these problems."

The Prime Minister was given a hero's welcome at Terminal Two of Kuala Lumpur International Airport by a mammoth crowd.

After landing at Terminal One at 4pm he and his wife were escorted to Terminal Two by Deputy Prime Minister Ghafar Baba and Selangor Menteri Besar Datuk Muhammad bin Muhammad Taib.

Flanked by a *kompang* group, a lion dance troupe and *nadhaswaram* (Indian flute) players, he walked to a specially constructed stage to the shouts of "Wira" (Hero) from the crowd.

Three athletes handed Dr Mahathir the national flag which he then stuck in a globe to symbolise world recognition for Malaysia.

Present were Information Minister Datuk Mohamed Rahmat, MCA deputy president Lee Kim Sai, Gerakan president Datuk Dr Lim Keng Yaik, MIC deputy president Datuk S. Subramaniam, Cabinet Ministers, several Menteri Besar and other dignitaries.

The Prime Minister said foreign investors' confidence in Malaysia's political stability had resulted in an eight-fold increase in investments in the first half of this year compared with the same period last year.

He said Malaysia's growth has gone up to nine per cent which he added was a very big achievement compared with some developed countries in Europe which recorded 1½ per cent growth.