

U E935 AAE  
MAHATHIR-BN R R R R  
BM

KUALA LUMPUR, JULY 30 (BERNAMA) -- DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD SAID TODAY THAT MORE EFFORTS ARE REQUIRED TO UPGRADE THE EXISTING OVERALL COOPERATION AMONG BARISAN NASIONAL (BN) COMPONENT PARTIES.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THAT OVERALL COOPERATION WAS THE BEST WAY TO OVERCOME WHATEVER OBSTACLES IN ADMINISTERING AND DEVELOPING THE COUNTRY.

+THIS COOPERATION AMONG THE BN COMPONENT PARTIES HAS BEEN GOING ON FOR A LONG TIME AND HAS BROUGHT ABOUT MANY BENEFITS TO THE BN,+ HE SAID WHEN OPENING THE 36TH MCA GENERAL ASSEMBLY AT WISMA MCA HERE.

HE SAID THAT THE CONCEPT OF TEAMWORK AND COOPERATION WAS VITAL, ADDING THAT OBSTACLES COULD BE OVERCOME WITH THE SPIRIT OF SINCERITY AND WANTING TO COOPERATE AND BY HAVING THE INTEREST OF THE NATION AND THE MAJORITY OF THE PEOPLE AT HEART.

+IN THE BN, WE ALL NEED TO ADMIT THAT WE OURSELVES, AT TIMES, FACE PROBLEMS IN ACHIEVING A CONSENSUS,+ HE SAID. -- MORE  
1237MST 30 07 89

U E937 AAE  
MAHATHIR-BN 2 KUALA LUMPUR R R R R

+WHAT IS IMPORTANT IS THAT WE IN THE BN COOPERATE TO FACE MANY PROBLEMS.

+WHATEVER PROBLEMS THAT ARISE ARE ONLY TEMPORARY9 WHICH EVENTUALLY WE CAN OVERCOME IN A MANNER WHICH WILL NOT CAUSE A LOSS TO THE NATION AND DO NOT BRING ABOUT DISUNITY AMONG US OR THE RACES IN MALAYSIA,+ HE SAID.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID THAT THE CONCEPT OF CONSENSUS AND COOPERATION WITHIN THE BN WAS CLEARLY REFLECTED IN THE BY-ELECTIONS HELD SINCE THE END OF LAST YEAR, ADDING THAT THE BN'S PERFORMANCE WAS SATISFACTORY.

HE SAID THAT THE BN NEED NOT NECESSARILY WIN ALL BY-ELECTIONS AND WHAT WAS NECESSARY WAS VICTORY IN MOST OF THEM.

+THE RESULTS OF THE BY-ELECTIONS AT LEAST PROVE THREE FACTORS: THE PEOPLE'S SUPPORT FOR THE BN IS STRONG, THE BN'S CONCEPT OF CONSENSUS FUNCTIONS WELL AND DEMOCRACY IS ALIVE,+ HE SAID. -- MORE  
1306MST 30 07 89

U E938 AAE  
MAHATHIR-BN 3 KUALA LUMPUR R R R R

THE PRIME MINISTER GAVE AN ASSURANCE THAT DEMOCRACY WOULD CONTINUE TO EXIST UNDER THE BN ADMINISTRATION. +THIS WE CAN ASSURE.+

HE SAID SOMETIME AGO, CERTAIN GROUPS ALLEGED THERE WAS NO DEMOCRACY IN MALAYSIA BUT WHEN BY-ELECTIONS WERE HELD AND CARRIED OUT FAIRLY AND IN WHICH OPPOSITION CANDIDATES WON, THESE GROUPS WERE SHY TO ADMIT THAT DEMOCRACY WAS ALIVE.

+HOWEVER, THE SILENT MAJORITY IS CONFIDENT DEMOCRACY IS AND WILL CONTINUE TO BE ALIVE IN THIS COUNTRY,+ HE SAID.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR ALSO SAID THAT THE BN DID NOT PREVENT ANY OF ITS COMPONENT PARTIES FROM WORKING TOGETHER.

POSSIBLY, SUCH COOPERATION WOULD BRING BENEFITS TO THE BN AS A WHOLE, HE SAID. -- MORE  
1308MST 30 07 89

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MAHATHIR-BN 4 KUALA LUMPUR R R R R

HE SAID THAT IF SUCH COOPERATION AT THE SECONDARY STAGE RESULTS IN SUSPICION AMONG OTHER COMPONENT PARTIES, THE PARTIES WORKING TOGETHER SHOULD AVOID SUCH A SITUATION BY GIVING PRIORITY TO OVERALL BN COOPERATION, LIKE WHAT EXISTED AT PRESENT.

THE PRIME MINISTER HOPED THE MCA GENERAL ASSEMBLY THIS YEAR WOULD MARK THE PARTY'S CONSOLIDATION AS, HE SAID, A STRONGER MCA WOULD BE A MEANINGFUL CONTRIBUTION TO BN AND GOVERNMENT RESILIENCE.

ALSO PRESENT WAS DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER ENCIK GHAFAR BABA, MIC PRESIDENT DATUK SERI S.SAMY VELLU AND GERAKAN PRESIDENT DATUK SERI DR LIM KENG YAIK.

-- BERNAMA

1322MST 30 07 89