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MAHATHIR - BN R'R'R'
BM

SHAH ALAM, AUG 19 (BERNAMA) -- PRIME MINISTER DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD TODAY ATTRIBUTED THE BARISAN NASIONAL'S STRENGTH TO **WILLINGNESS OF** COMPONENT PARTIES TO MAKE SACRIFICES.

AS SUCH IT WAS VITAL FOR EACH COMPONENT PARTY TO APPRECIATE SACRIFICES BY OTHERS SO AS CREATE UNDERSTANDING AND RESPECT AMONG EACH **OTHER**, HE SAID WHEN OPENING THE 37TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE **MIC** HERE.

HE SAID MEMBERS OF A COMPONENT PARTY WERE USUALLY MORE CONSCIOUS OF THE SACRIFICES MADE BY THEIR OWN PARTY THAN THAT OF OTHER COMPONENT PARTIES.

IT WOULD BE BETTER THAT EACH SACRIFICE BE GIVEN THE SAME ATTENTION AS THIS WOULD ENABLE THE BN TO MAINTAIN ITS STRENGTH TO ADMINISTER AND DEVELOP THE COUNTRY FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE **RAKYAT**, HE SAID.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID AS A COALITION PARTY OF MORE THAN 10 POLITICAL PARTIES, THE BN HAD SUCCESSFULLY FACED CHALLENGES POSED BY OPPOSITION PARTIES EACH TIME.

HE ATTRIBUTED THIS TO STABILITY OF MOST OF **THE COMPONENT PARTIES**, AN IMPORTANT FACTOR THAT ENABLE THE BN TO **SUCCESSFULLY** RULE THE MULTI-RACIAL COUNTRY. -- MORE.

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D195

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MAHATHIR - BN 2 SHAH ALAM R'R'R'

ON THE **MIC**, THE **PRIME** MINISTER EXPRESSED CONFIDENCE THAT WITH **MATURED** LEADERSHIP, IT WOULD EMERGE MORE STABLE IN YEARS TO COME ALTHOUGH FACED WITH +ONE OR TWO CHALLENGES.+

+IF WE RECALL THE HISTORY OF THE ALLIANCE IN THE PAST AND THE **BN** AT **PRESENT**, WE SEE COMPONENT PARTIES ONE AFTER ANOTHER FACING INTERNAL CHALLENGES THAT SEEMED TO DESTROY THE PARTY **ITSELF**,+ HE SAID.

HOWEVER, HE SAID HISTORY HAD SHOWN THAT EACH COMPONENT PARTY ULTIMATELY WOULD **SUCCESSFULLY** OVERCOME THE CHALLENGES AND EMERGED EVEN MORE STABLE AND STRONG.

THE BITTERNESS EXPERIENCED DURING THE TROUBLED PERIOD HAD SERVED AS A CURE AND TONIC TO **THE** PARTY'S STABILITY, HE SAID.

TOUCHING ON BY-ELECTIONS, DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID GIVEN THE CHOICE THE BN WOULD LIKE TO SEE FEW SUCH ELECTXONS SO THAT XT COULD CONCERNTRATE ON DEVELOPING THE COUNTRY.

ON THE OTHER **HAND**, HE SAID THEY COULD SERVE TOO AS A BAROMETER TO THE BN TO SEE WHETHER IT STILL HAD THE SUPPORT OF THE RAKYAT OR OTHERWISE DURING THE PERIOD BETWEEN EACH GENERAL ELECTIONS. -- MORE.

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MAHATHIR - BN 3 SHAH ALAM R'R'R'

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THE BY-ELECTIONS ALSO SERVED AS REMINDER TO THE BN NOT **TO BE COMPLACENT** IN CARRYING OUT ITS RESPONSIBILITY TO THE RAKYAT AND THE COUNTRY'S PEACE AND STABILITY.

+IF THE BN IS COMPLACENT AFTER WINNING THE GENERAL ELECTION! IT WILL BE RESTLESS WHEN COME A BY-ELECTION OR GENERAL ELECTION.+

HE SAID ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES AND LEADERS OF COMPONENT PARTIES SHOULD ALWAYS REALISE THAT THE BN NEEDED THE SUPORT OF RAKYAT. IN ORDER TO RULE THE COUNTRY AND AS SUCH THEY SHOULD BE CLOSE WITH THE RAKYAT AND **SYMPATHETIC** WITH THEIR PROBLEMS.

DATUK SERI DR **MAHATHIR** SAID THEY SHOULD ALSO BE-RESPONSIVE TO CERTAIN ISSUES RAISED BY OPPOSITION PARTIES IN BY-ELECTIONS.

IT WAS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE BN TO COUNTER THE ISSUES RAISED WHICH AT TIMES WERE JUST **MADE UP** BY THE OPPOSITION, HE SAID.

+SO FAR WE HAVE ATTAINED VICTORY AND WE SHOULD CONTINUE TO WORK TO ATTAIN BIGGER VICTORY IN GENERAL ELECTIONS TO **COME**,+ HE SAID. --
MORE.

1535MST 19 08 89

D216

U E359 ENG

MAHATHIR - BN 4 SHAH ALAM R'R'R'

THE PRIME **MINISTER** ALSO TOUCHED ON THE ROLE OF THE RAKYAT IN PRESERVING THE GOOD NAME OF THE COUNTRY PARTICULARLY WITH HOLDING OF **SEA GAMES** WHICH BEGAN **TOMORROW**, COMMONWEALTH HEADS OF GOVERNMENT **MEETING (CHOGM)** IN OCTOBER AND VISIT MALAYSIA YEAR NEXT YEAR.

HE SAID EVERYONE HAD THEIR RESPECTIVE ROLES TO **PLAY**, REGARDLESS OF WHETHER HE IS A GOVERNMENT **STAFF, POLITICIAN, TRADER OR** HOUSEWIFE.

A GOOD IMAGE PROJECTED BY MALAYSIANS TO VISITORS WOULD AUGUR WELL FOR THE COUNTRY'S TOURISM **INDUSTRY**, HE SAID.

ON THE COUNTRY'S **ECONOMY**, **DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR** AGAIN REPEATED HIS CALL TO ALL SECTORS AND GROUPS TO WORK TOGETHER TO ENSURE CONTINUED ECONOMIC GROWTH.

THOSE ACTIVELY INVOLVED IN POLITICAL ACTIVITIES SHOULD ENSURE THAT POLITICAL AND SOCIAL ATMOSPHERES IN THE COUNTRY WERE CONDUCIVE TO ECONOMIC **GROWTH**, HE SAID. -- BERNAMA.

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