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HAHATHIR-COMMUNIST R' R' R'
BH

KUALA LUMPUR, DEC 2 (BERNAMA) -- PRIME MINISTER DATUK SERI DR HAHATHIR MOHAMAD TODAY URGED THE PEOPLE TO CONTINUE TO BE VIGILANT AND SENSITIVE TOWARDS MATTERS THAT COULD POSE A THREAT TO NATIONAL STABILITY AND SECURITY ALTHOUGH THE COMMUNIST THREAT NO LONGER EXISTS.

HE SAID THAT AS A NATION OF VARIOUS RACES, RELIGIONS AND CULTURES, MALAYSIA WOULD CONTINUE TO BE EXPOSED TO SECURITY THREATS RESULTING FROM THE EXISTING CONDITIONS AND WAYS OF LIFE OF THE PEOPLE.

HE SAID THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAD A RESPONSIBILITY TO GUARANTEE THE CONTINUED EXISTENCE OF PUBLIC ORDER AND NATIONAL SECURITY THROUGH LAW ENFORCEMENT.

HE SAID THIS IN A STATEMENT ISSUED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE SIGNING OF A PEACE ACCORD BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF MALAYSIA AND THE OUTLAWED COMMUNIST PARTY OF MALAYA (CPM) IN HAADYAI, THAILAND HERE TODAY. WITH ITS SIGNING, THE CPM ENDED 41 YEARS OF ARMED STRUGGLE.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THAT WITH THE ACCORD, THE GOVERNMENT HOPED THAT IT WAS THE END OF A THREAT TO NATIONAL SECURITY FROM THAT SOURCE.

HE SAID THAT THE GOVERNMENT COULD NOW CONCENTRATE ALL ITS EFFORTS AND ENERGY TOWARDS RAPID ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND THE UPLIFTMENT OF THE STANDARD OF LIVING OF THE PEOPLE, ESPECIALLY IN AREAS THAT HAD NOT BEEN GIVEN DUE EMPHASIS BECAUSE OF THE CPM ARMED ACTIVITIES. -- MORE

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MAHATHIR-COMMUNIST 2 KUALA LUMPUR R' R' R'

HE STRESSED HOWEVER THAT THE SIGNING OF THE ACCORD TODAY DID NOT CHANGE THE POSITION OF THE CPM.

+FROM THE LEGAL ASPECT, IT IS STILL BANNED,+ HE SAID.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THAT THE GOVERNMENT'S SUCCESS IN OVERCOMING THE CPM'S ARMED ACTIVITIES WAS PROOF OF THE UPHOLDING OF THE NATION'S CONSTITUTION WHICH FORMED THE BASIS OF THE COUNTRY'S ADMINISTRATION WITH ITS PRACTICE OF DEMOCRACY AND CONSTITUTIONAL MONARCHY AND THE CREATION OF A SOCIETY OF VARIOUS RACES, RELIGIONS AND CULTURES BASED ON MODERATION, TOLERANCE, CONSIDERATION AND UNDERSTANDING.

+THE NATION'S CONSTITUTION DOES NOT FAVOUR A WAY OF LIFE OR ANY FORM OF THINKING OR IDEOLOGY THAT INFRINGES THESE PRINCIPLES?+ HE SAID.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID THAT THE AGREEMENT TOWARDS PEACE AND SECURITY WAS ACHIEVED AS A RESULT OF THE STUDY AND ASSESSMENT MADE BY THE GOVERNMENT THAT THE PRESENT SITUATION AND CONDITIONS WERE VERY CONDUCIVE TOWARDS THE PEACEFUL SOLUTION OF THE PROBLEM OF THE CPM ARMED ACTIVITIES.

IT WAS ALSO A RESULT OF THE EXISTING CLOSE CO-OPERATION BETWEEN MALAYSIA AND THAILAND ESPECIALLY IN THE SECURITY ASPECT.

+FOR US MALAYSIANS, THIS SUCCESS ESPECIALLY IS THE RESULT OF THE DETERMINATION, CONTRIBUTION AND SACRIFICE BY EVERYONE, ESPECIALLY MEMBERS OF THE SECURITY FORCES -- THE ARMY AND POLICE,+ HE SAID. -- MORE

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+NOT LEAST ALSO, THE OTHER GOVERNMENT AGENCIES AND THE PEOPLE WHO HAVE RALLIED IN SUPPORT OF THE GOVERNMENT IN OVERCOMING THE PROBLEM.+

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR EXPRESSED HIS APPRECIATION OF THE MAJOR ROLE PLAYED BY THE PEOPLE IN THE EARLY STAGES OF THE EMERGENCY THROUGH THE SERVICES OF THE HOME GUARD AND THE SPECIAL CONSTABULARY.

HE SAID THAT THEIR INVALUABLE DEED WOULD ALWAYS BE RECOGNISED BY THE NATION.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THAT THE GOVERNMENT WAS AWARE THAT THERE STILL EXISTED IN SARAWAK A SMALL NUMBER OF COMMUNIST SUBVERSIVES FROM THE NORTH KALIMANTAN COMMUNIST PARTY,

THE GOVERNMENT HOPED TO FIND A SOLUTION TO THIS PROBLEM IN THE SHORTEST TIME POSSIBLE. -- BERNAMA

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