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PULAU PINANG, AUG 19 (BERNAMA) -- DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD TONIGHT REMINDED THE PEOPLE THAT ONLY THE BARISAN NASIONAL GOVERNMENT PROVIDES OPPORTUNITES TO ALL THE RACES TO PLAY A ROLE IN NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THE BARISAN NASIONAL WAS NOT ONLY PREPARED TO ACCEPT ALL RACES AS MEMBERS BUT ALSO GAVE THE EXISTING OPPOSITION PARTIES AN OPPORTUNITY TO JOINTLY DISCUSS DEVELOPING THE NATION.

HOWEVER, THE OPPOSITION PARTIES REJECTED THE OFFER AND INSTEAD HARBOURED AMBITIONS TO TOPPLE THE BARISAN NASIONAL GOVERNMENT, HE SAID WHEN LAUNCHING THE EXTENSION OF THE PULAU PINANG PESTA SITE IN SUNGAI NIBONG HERE.

AMONG THE 10,000 PEOPLE PRESENT WERE DATUK SERI DATIN PADUKA DR SITI HASMAH ALI, PULAU PINANG CHIEF MINISTER DR LIM CHONG EU, EDUCATION MINISTER ANWAR IBRAHIM AND SARAWAK INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT MINISTER DATUK DR WONG SOON KAI.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR, WHO IS ALSO UMNO PRESIDENT AND BARISAN NASIONAL CHAIRMAN, SPOKE ON VARIOUS ISSUES AND REMINDED THE PEOPLE TO MAKE THE CORRECT CHOICE IN THE GENERAL ELECTION SO THAT THEY WOULD NOT BE CHEATED BY EMPTY PROMISES FROM THE OPPOSITION. -- MORE
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MAHATHIR-BN 2 PULAU PINANG

AMONG THE SPEAKERS WERE MCA PRESIDENT DATUK SERI DR LING LIONG SIK, GERAKAN PRESIDENT DATUK SERI DR LIM KENG YAIK AND MIC PRESIDENT DATUK SERI S. SAMY VELLU WHO REMINDED THE PEOPLE NOT TO BE EASILY TAKEN IN BY THE PLOYS OF THE OPPOSITION PARTIES WHO WERE ONLY OUT TO GARNER VOTES.

DATUK SERI DR LING CRITICISED THE OPPOSITION FOR ASPIRING TO EVOLVE A TWO-PARTY SYSTEM BASED ON THE U.S. POLITICAL SYSTEM BECAUSE HE SAID SUCH A SYSTEM WAS NOT SUITABLE IN MALAYSIA.

ON THE OPPOSITION PACT, HE SAID IT WAS LIKE THE CHINESE SAYING +DISPLAYING GOAT MEAT IN THE SHOP FRONT BUT SELLING DOG MEAT IN THE BACK+.

DATUK SERI DR LIM REMINDED THE PEOPLE NOT TO LISTEN TO RUMOURS SPREAD BY THE OPPOSITION BECAUSE THIS COULD BRING ABOUT CHAOS IN THE COUNTRY WHILE DATUK SERI SAMY VELLU SAID THAT IF THE OPPOSITION RULED PULAU PINANG, THE PEOPLE WOULD STOP ENJOYING THE PROGRESS THEY DID NOW.

HOWEVER, HE WAS CONFIDENT THAT WITH COOPERATION AMONG THE BARISAN NASIONAL LEADERS THE OPPOSITION IN PULAU PINANG WOULD BE WIPED OUT IN THE NEXT GENERAL ELECTION.

IN THIS CONNECTION, DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MET THE STATE BARISAN NASIONAL LEADERS THIS AFTERNOON ON PREPARATIONS FOR THE ELECTION. --
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