

PM: Don't support extremists parties

MST 24 AUG 1990

ALOR STAR Thurs. Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad today urged Malaysian Chinese and other racial groups not to support extremist parties but to continue supporting the Barisan Nasional concept which had brought about a strong and effective Government.

He said if the BN was returned with a weak majority, it would not be able to maintain law and order or be effective.

He said in 1969 the Government was not as strong as it was today and this had resulted in demonstrations by various racial groups which led to the 1969 riots.

Speaking at a dinner hosted by the Kedah and Perlis Chinese Assembly halls at the Dewan Datuk Syed Omar, he said the BN, and the Alliance before that, were led by moderate leaders.

The Prime Minister said this strength became evident when the Chinese and Malays voted in candidates from the same party during the municipal elections in Kuala Lumpur in 1951.

In successive general elections, the Alliance and later the BN were elected with strong majorities which enabled them to form strong Governments.

He said the British

had feared that chaos would occur in this country due to the presence of various races once they gave the country independence but events had proved them wrong. All this had been made possible through the Alliance and BN concept.

Dr Mahathir said the stable Government had led to the growth of industries and progress in other fields to such an extent that Malaysia now ranked fifth among over 130 developing countries.

The same strength had forced the Communist Party of Ma-

□ DR M: MALAYSIA CAN'T ALWAYS DEPEND ON G.S.P: P2

laya (CPM) to lay down arms recently.

He said world leaders had praised Malaysia's stability and African leader Nelson Mandela had commented that Malaysia was the only country where guerilla warfare had failed.

He promised that the BN would continue to choose moderate leaders.

He reminded the people not to be influenced by Semangat 46 or any other opposition parties who were out to split them.

Also present at the function was Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Haji Osman Aroff.