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ALOR SETAR, OCT 10 (BERNAMA) -- PRIME MINISTER DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID TONIGHT UMNO MEMBERS SHOULD PLACE IMPORTANCE ON THE OBJECTIVES OF THE PARTY'S STRUGGLES AND NOT ON INDIVIDUAL CANDIDATES IN THE COMING GENERAL ELECTION.

HE TOLD PARTY MEMBERS BEFORE THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF CANDIDATES FOR THE GENERAL ELECTION BY MENTERI BESAR DATUK SERI OSMAN AROFF WHO IS STATE BN CHAIRMAN, THAT UMNO'S CONSTITUTION DID NOT MAKE ANY MENTION REGARDING CANDIDATES.

INSTEAD, IT HAD SET DOWN UMNO'S STRUGGLES TO DEFEND THE RACE, RELIGION AND THE COUNTRY, SAID DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR WHO IS BN PRESIDENT.

THE PERSON NOMINATED AS CANDIDATE SHOULD NOT REGARD IT AS HIS PERSONAL VICTORY, HE SAID ADDING THAT SUCH A PERSON REFLECTED THAT HE LACKED THE SPIRIT OF THE PARTY.

HE SAID THAT MEMBERS SHOULD REALISE THAT THE DEFEAT OF A CANDIDATE MEANT THE DEFEAT OF THE PARTY AND THE BN GOVERNMENT. --
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