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MAHATHIR-MUSTAFFA R'R'R'
BM

BATU PAHAT, OCT 10 (BERNAMA) -- PRIME MINISTER DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD TODAY SAID THE EXCLUSION OF WELFARE SERVICES MINISTER DATUK MUSTAFFA MOHAMAD FROM THE COMING GENERAL ELECTION IS NO REFLECTION OF HIS PERFORMANCE AS A CABINET MEMBER OR AN UMNO LEADER.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID HE WAS SATISFIED WITH DATUK MUSTAFFA'S PERFORMANCE IN BOTH CAPACITIES.

DATUK MUSTAFFA HAD AGREED NOT TO SEEK REELECTION TO ALLOW ROOM FOR THE FORMATION OF THE GOVERNMENT LATER, THE PRIME MINISTER TOLD LEADERS OF BARISAN NASIONAL COMPONENT PARTIES AT A MEETING AT DATUK MUSTAFFA'S RESIDENCE HERE.

+HE HAS SERVED AND LED THE MINISTRY WELL AND INTRODUCED NEW IDEAS. IN FACT HE HAS INTRODUCED A NEW POLICY WHICH WE SHALL IMPLEMENT LATER+, THE PRIME MINISTER SAID.

+NO ONE IS UNHAPPY WITH DATUK MUSTAFFA. THE CHANGE IS FOR THE SAKE OF THE GENERAL ELECTION AND FORMATION OF THE GOVERNMENT LATER,+ SAID DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR.

IT WAS COMMON IN GENERAL ELECTIONS THAT INCUMBENT ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES WERE NOT RENOMINATED AND OTHERS FILLED IN FOR THEM BECAUSE WHAT WAS MORE IMPORTANT WAS TO + SET UP A GOVERNMENT THAT DELIVERS THE GOODS,+ SAID DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR WHO IS BN CHAIRMAN.

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MAHATHIR-MUSTAFFA 2 BATU PAHAT R'R'R'

FOR THE SAKE OF THE PARTY, DATUK MUSTAFFA WAS + WILLING TO PUT HIS NECK OUT+, SAID THE PRIME MINISTER WHO DESCRIBED DATUK MUSTAFFA AS ONE OF HIS MOST STAUNCH SUPPORTERS WHEN UMNO WAS BEING REHABILITATED FOLLOWING THE COURT RULING AGAINST ITS LEGALITY.

ADDRESSING THE GATHERING, DATUK MUSTAFFA PLEDGED THAT HE WOULD NOT QUIT POLITICS AND INSTEAD WOULD CONTINUE TO LEAD THE SERI GADING UMNO DIVISION.

+ALTHOUGH I AM NOT SEEKING REELECTION THIS TIME AROUND, I SHALL CONTINUE TO LEAD THE COMMUNITY IN SERI GADING LIKE MY FATHER AND GRANDFATHER,+ HE SAID.

DATUK MUSTAFFA PLEDGED UNWAVERING SUPPORT FOR THE PRIME MINISTER DESPITE OF NOT BEING RENOMINATED TO CONTEST IN THE OCT 21 GENERAL ELECTION.

HE SAID IT WAS NATURAL FOR LEADERS TO COME AND GO.

+LET ME LEAVE IN GRACE,+ HE SAID SOBBINGLY ADDING THAT CERTAIN ELEMENTS WERE TRYING TO MAKE AN ISSUE OUT OF HIS POSITION.-- BERNAMA
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