

Dr M launches 24-page manifesto

# BN promises continued prosperity

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By Nuraina Samad

**KUALA LUMPUR, Fri. —** The Barisan Nasional manifesto for the 1990 general election promises continued peace, stability and prosperity for Malaysians.

The manifesto, with the slogan "Towards a peaceful, stable and prosperous Malaysia", calls on the people not to gamble with their future but "together take Malaysia to greater heights of national prosperity and happiness".

"Together we can do it, you and the Barisan Nasional ... a vote for Barisan Nasional is a vote for peace, stability and prosperity," the 24-page manifesto booklet says.

The ruling coalition is the first to make public its manifesto. Pas, the DAP and Semangat 46 have yet to release theirs. However, the Malacca DAP today issued its own manifesto.

Launching the BN manifesto here today, Prime Minister and BN chairman Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said the attainment of peace and prosperity was made possible by the coalition's leaders, who are "moderates" and believed in find-

ing solutions to problems through consensus".

"In short, the manifesto mirrors the BN's services and also its aspiration to continue efforts to achieve progress and prosperity in the country.

"We want the people to continue having confidence in the BN because the coalition has proven that it is able to develop the nation."

The manifesto covers 14 issues. They are politics, democracy, economic progress, employment opportunities, finance, agriculture, rural development, social development, education, health, religious freedom, national unity and integration, administration and international affairs.

The manifesto reminds Malaysians that the things they take for granted, like freedom from oppression, better living standards and a high level of economic achievement, did not "happen by accident" but were achieved by a responsible Government elected by the people.

On politics, the manifesto said the essential ingredients for progress and prosperity are peace, stability and security.

Under the BN Government, the security forces had successfully effected the laying down of arms by communist insurgents.

The party had proven that stability and racial

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harmony could be achieved, among others, by ensuring that the component parties are moderates with similar ideas and strategies for nation building and that the desire to win elections is motivated by a wish to serve.

On democracy, the manifesto said that the BN had faithfully practised democracy and pledged that elections were free and fair. This was evident by the fact that the Opposition could win elections and form State Governments.

It said all Malaysians were free to express themselves as long as they did not instigate racial or religious conflicts.

The media is free, the Ju-

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diary independent person or institution in Malaysia is above the law and "certainly not the constitution".

On the economy, the BN promises to maintain the momentum of growth by continuing its liberal policy, providing tax holidays, reducing taxes to make Malaysia an attractive investment centre and generating more jobs and better pay.

"With the Barisan Nasional, Malaysians will be assured of more employment opportunities, higher wages, reduced taxation and sound economic growth.

On employment opportunities, the BN has given an assurance that the plan to stimulate economic

growth for greater employment opportunities will continue with new ideas, strategies and projects to accelerate the process.

"The Barisan Nasional is no longer dealing with promises because we have kept all of them. We are now dealing with plans for our future generations," it said.

On finance, the manifesto said Malaysia's financial position was strong and it was poised for greater economic growth to give the people a better quality of life.

The country's financial management could only succeed with the BN's long-term vision and an environment of peace, stability and progress.