

MAHATHIR-UMNO RRR
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PARIT BUNTAR, OCT 18 (BERNAMA) -- PRIME MINISTER DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD SAID UMNO MUST WIN ALL THE 87 PARLIAMENTARY SEATS IT IS CONTESTING IN THE GENERAL ELECTION ON SUNDAY TO BE THE PILLAR OF STRENGTH OF THE BARISAN NASIONAL GOVERNMENT TO BE FORMED LATER.

WITH UMNO WINNING ALL THE SEATS IT CONTESTED, THE PARTY WOULD BE THE SPINE OF THE COALITION GOVERNMENT WHICH NO QUARTERS COULD EASILY DISMANTLE, HE SAID.

A FORMIDABLE GOVERNMENT NEED A STRONG BACKBONE AND SOLID FOUNDATION, HE SAID WHEN ADDRESSING ABOUT 5,000 PEOPLE AT THE MERDEKA HALL HERE THIS EVENING.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR, WHO IS UMNO PRESIDENT, SAID ONLY A STRONG GOVERNMENT COULD BRING ABOUT PEACE AND PROSPERITY TO THE NATION.

TO ACHIEVE THIS, THE PEOPLE MUST ENSURE THAT THE BN SECURED TWO THIRDS OF THE SEATS IN DEWAN RAKYAT, HE SAID.-- MORE
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DATUK SERI MAHATHIR SAID UMNO HAD STRIVEN SINCE 1946 TO LOOK AFTER MALAY INTERESTS --*--*WITHOUT NEGLECTING THOSE OF THE CHINESE AND THE INDIANS.

+WE DO NOT IGNORE THE INDIANS AND THE CHINESE. IN FACT WE GIVE THEM A PROPER PLACE IN THE COUNTRY, + HE SAID.

THE COUNTRY WAS NOW FACING THE PROBLEM OF DISLOYAL MEMBERS WHO NOT ONLY LEFT THEIR PARTY BUT ALSO DISCREDIT IT WHEN THEY FAILED TO GET ANYTHING OUT OF THE PARTY.

HE SAID SEMANGAT 46 WAS AN EXAMPLE OF A PARTY RUN BY SOMEONE DISLOYAL TO UMNO AND WHO TOOK UP POLITICS FOR SELFISH ENDS.

THE PERSON WAS ALL OVER THE COUNTRY ENTICING THOSE SIMILARLY UNFORTUNATE TO JOIN SEMANGAT 46, FORGETTING THAT IT WAS UMNO WHICH MADE HIM FINANCE MINISTER AND TRADE AND INDUSTRY MINISTER, REFERRING TO TENGKU RAZALEIGH HAMZAH.-- MORE
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THE PRIME MINISTER PRAISED FORMER MIC DEPUTY PRESIDENT DATUK S.SUBRAMANIAM, ITS FORMER SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT DATUK K. PATHMANABAN, DEPUTY CULTURE AND TOURISM MINISTER DATUK NG CHENG KUAI WHO WERE CAMPAIGNING FOR BN CANDIDATES.

+THIS IS PROOF OF THEIR LOYALTY AND SINCERITY TO THEIR PARTIES AND THE BN ALTHOUGH THEY ARE NOT CONTESTING IN THE GENERAL ELECTION THIS TIME AROUND,+ HE SAID.

THE PRIME MINISTER WAS HAPPY TO RECEIVE A TELEGRAM FROM THE PARIT BUNTAR BRANCH OF THE NATIONAL EX-SERVICEMEN ASSOCIATION WHICH PLEDGED TO ENSURE A BN WIN HERE AND TO DEFEND THE COUNTRY, RACE AND RELIGION.-- BERNAMA