

Dr M: Support BN Government to ensure continued success

**By A. Kathirasan,
Saiful Azhar Abdullah
and M. Sahibullah**

PENANG, Sun. — Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad today reminded the people to consolidate their support for the Government as this would enable everyone to continue to enjoy the country's unique multi-racial success.

The Prime Minister said there was safety and security in Malaysia and the people lived in peace and harmony although there were so many races here.

This has made Malaysia a model for other developing countries, especially those with a multiracial background. Malaysia's success in this is unique, Dr Mahathir said.

The Prime Minister said this at a dinner called "Night with Barisan Nasional" at the Espalanade here tonight. It turned out to be one of the biggest dinner functions ever held in Penang.

He said: "I wish to remind everyone that our peace is unique. Other multiracial nations are normally not as peaceful as Malaysia.

"We are multiracial here but we feel safe wherever

we are in Malaysia. A Malay goes into Chinatown or a Chinese goes into a Malay village but there is no fear of anything bad happening to us. This is special to Malaysia."

When Dr Mahathir started speaking there was a slight drizzle, which later developed into a downpour. But Prime Minister continued to deliver his speech.

Many of those present took courage from his act and also stood their ground in the rain, holding up umbrellas or overturned chairs over their heads. Some rushed to a few nearby tents where food was cooked earlier.

At one juncture, when Dr Mahathir wanted to stop as he did not want the crowd to stand too long in the rain, voices were heard calling out "*teruskan, teruskan*" (continue, continue) and the Prime Minister did so.

Dr Mahathir said the peace and prosperity had its basis on the coalition politics of the Alliance and now the BN.

"Malaysian politics from the beginning has involved the major races. Because Tunku Abdul Rahman formed the Alliance with this concept of bringing the

races together in a united coalition, we today enjoy peace."

He said now the BN had grown to include Malays, Chinese, Indians, Kadazans, Ibans, Muruts, Bajau, Bidayuh and others.

Dr Mahathir said all races were given a voice in the coalition and the BN worked to unify the people of all races.

The Prime Minister said there was so much bitterness and blood-letting in many other countries while Malaysia continued to enjoy peace and the people could carry on with their daily living with a sense of security and safety.

"We in Malaysia have no such problem. There is no fear for our security here. This is due to the type of co-operation between the races as practised by the BN where every race has a voice which is given serious consideration. We discuss and solve problems in Malaysia.

"Today Malaysia is a model for the rest of the developing countries in the world. This is because we have a Government which works with vision and the interest of the people in mind."

Dr Mahathir said some governments forget their re-

sponsibilities once in power but the BN had never done this. It had always fulfilled its responsibilities well and worked to uplift the standard of living of the people.

He said the Government worked whether there was a general election or not, whether it rained or not. This was followed by laughter.

The Prime Minister praised former Penang Chief Minister Tun Dr Lim Chong Eu for being the pioneer in bringing the manufacturing industry to Malaysia.

He said in the aftermath of the May 13 tragedy, the Government was looking at various ways to develop the country and Dr Lim set up a small electronics factory and worked to attract electronics companies to Penang.

Today, the efforts have paid off and there are industries all over the country such that 78 per cent of Malaysia's exports are manufactured items.

He said Malaysia had also become the 17th largest trading company in the world even though the

PLEASE TURN TO
PAGE 4, COL 8

470

Any change will disrupt development

□ FROM PAGE ONE

country was small. This, he said, was due to the efforts of the BN Government.

"Our vision is to make Malaysia a fully developed and industrialised country that will stand tall among countries of the world."

"We want Malaysian industries to be sophisticated."

In an obvious reference to the DAP's avowed aim of capturing Penang, Dr Mahathir said: "We have shown our ability to get things done, to succeed. But we must have continuity. If you change and accept another form of Government, everything will come to a stop because they will want to have some socialist ideas which will disrupt the upward movement."

"The BN Government does not want power just for the sake of power or prestige. We want to form the Government because we want to develop the country and improve the standard of living of the people, to take the country to greater heights of achievement."

"The Government, with the cooperation of the people, will ensure that such a nation can give your support to the BN and ensure continuity. We work for you. If you succeed, it is our success."

"The best reward for us, the best payment, is to see this country become fully developed and standing proud and tall in the community of nations," added Dr Mahathir to applause.