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BN-Ceylonese

CEYLONESE COMMUNITY TO CONTINUE TO SUPPORT BARISAN NASIONAL

KUALA LUMPUR, Oct 15 (Bernama) -- The Malaysian Ceylonese Congress (MCC) today urged every Ceylonese in the country to continue its tradition of supporting the Barisan Nasional (BN) in the next general election.

Its president, Dr D.M. Thuraiappah, said today the BN was the only viable front to rule the country and had proven to the people and the world that cooperation between the communities was the only way forward.

"As we step into the new century and a new millennium, a united front will promise a peaceful and harmonious way of life in Malaysia," he told Bernama, here.

Dr Thuraiappah said the strong leadership of Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad was the prime factor in Malaysia's stable, peaceful and harmonious way of life.

He said the Congress, which was formed in 1958, had full confidence in Dr Mahathir's leadership and would go all out to ensure that the present government stayed in power.

"Traditionally, Malaysians have been peace loving and would sacrifice almost anything for a stable government. It's easy to find fault with anything...but we feel only BN can promote stability," he said when commenting on recent criticism and demonstrations against the government.

There were about 50,000 Ceylonese in the country and efforts were being made to woo them to support BN, he said, adding that only a small number had joined opposition parties, especially the National Justice Party (Keadilan).

"We have instructed all our 20 branches nationwide to give every assistance where possible to BN candidates in their constituency," he said.

Dr Thuraiappah said although the party's application to join BN had yet to receive any favourable reply, it was prepared to send its members to campaign for the front at the ground level.

He said they had notified BN secretary-general Datuk Mohamad Rahmat of the MCC's support and its preparedness to help during the election campaign.

-- BERNAMA

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