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Mahathir-Opposition

OPPOSITION MADE NO CONTRIBUTION, SAYS DR MAHATHIR

BUKIT MERTAJAM, Nov 27 (Bernama) -- The opposition should not be supported as they had not made any contribution to the country, said Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

Opposition parties such as DAP and PAS had never contributed constructive ideas or views for the country, he said in opening the Politeknik Seberang Perai here today.

He said the opposition only knew how to criticise, curse and accuse the government of various untruths.

Dr Mahathir said such opposition parties did not deserve to be supported as they had not played a role in nation building.

"As opposition (in the Dewan Rakyat) is good as a check and balance measure ... but not the kind of opposition that currently existed in the country," he said.

Dr Mahathir said the opposition had claimed it was vital that they were present in the Dewan Rakyat or the government could do whatever it liked.

The truth, he said, was that with a two-thirds majority in the Dewan Rakyat the government could, but, it never did so.

"We have the people's interests at heart ... whatever we do, it is in the people's interests," he said.

Dr Mahathir said the government wanted an opposition which could offer support which it concerned national interests and to raise objections if something the government wanted done would not benefit the country.

"But the opposition we have never made constructive criticisms ... they only opposed whatever the government did. They have never supported whatever the government did," he said.

He cited as examples, the national car project (Proton) implemented by the government which the opposition claimed was a waste and privatisation projects which the opposition alleged were for government cronies.

He said an opposition which opposed whatever the government did was not useful and thus did not deserve the support of the people.

Referring to DAP leaders Lim Kit Siang and Karpal Singh, Dr Mahathir said in the Dewan Rakyat both men spoke in anger, just to spite others.

He also said the two DAP leaders could not be held for their words in the Dewan Rakyat.

-- BERNAMA

AHM THG