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Razaleigh-Support

WIDESPREAD SUPPORT FOR DR M SHOWS HIS LEADERSHIP STILL NEEDED

BESUT, Sept 10 (Bernama) -- The strong support given by students and rural people to Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad shows that the country still needs his leadership, Kelantan Umno chief Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah said today.

He said the rousing receptions received by the Prime Minister at public functions also disproved opposition claims that the people were rejecting Dr Mahathir.

Dr Mahathir was welcomed by some 80,000 rural people when he visited Jengka recently and was also warmly received by university students at a dialogue yesterday, he said.

"So the opposition propaganda that Dr Mahathir has been rejected is obviously untrue and confusing," he told reporters after meeting Besut Umno division members here.

He said Dr Mahathir's meeting with the university students also proved that they did not hate him and were not the type who would resort to street demonstrations to air their views.

After the meeting in Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia in Bangi, Dr Mahathir told the press that on the whole the students accepted his explanations on various issues, including the action taken against Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim.

Tengku Razaleigh said it was clear that Dr Mahathir was not only getting the support of Barisan Nasional but also all strata of society, including university students, rural people and government officers.

On bonus, Tengku Razaleigh said civil servants should be patient because the government would pay when it was in a position to do so.

Tengku Razaleigh also reiterated his confidence that BN would capture Kelantan from PAS in the next general election.

He based his optimism on the strong support given to the BN and the cracks appearing in the so-called alternative front formed by the opposition.

-- BERNAMA

SN YBY