

27 JUL 2000

Mahathir-Peace

VALUE PEACE, SAYS DR MAHATHIR

KOTA KINABALU, July 27 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad tonight urged the people of various races in the country to value the peace that they now enjoy and to respect the laws of the country to prevent chaos.

He said although the Malaysian society was used to peace and regarded it as something normal that would continue to exist among them, at times problems could arise if the peace was not appreciated.

"If we don't value it, we may lose this peaceful condition and it is then that we will truly appreciate it," he said at a dinner with the people, here.

Among the precautions that must be taken to prevent chaos was to maintain good relations among the races, he said.

"Unfortunately, some people do not appreciate peace and want to cause chaos. While the majority of the people like peace, this group likes to disturb peace because they want something from an unstable situation," he said.

Samy Vellu also said that MIC elected representatives must establish closer ties with the people in their respective constituency.

All party MPs and assemblymen must maintain an office with a full time clerk in their constituency, he said.

The elected representatives must also send monthly reports to the MIC headquarters.

"This is important because the party received feedback during the Teluk Kemang by-election in May that there are some relected representatives who don't visit their areas and fulfil promises after winning the election," said Samy Vellu.

The party president also announced that all state MIC chiefs had been retained for the 200-2003 term except in Negeri Sembilan and Perlis.

In Negeri Sembilan, newly elected Teluk Kemang MP S.Sothinathan will take over as the party chief from Prof Dr T.Marimuthu, while in Perlis, S.Vengadasamy has been appointed to replace the late M.K.Govindasamy.

--BERNAMA

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