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Mahathir-MCA

MAHATHIR GLAD HIS PEACE PLAN ACCEPTED BY MCA MEMBER

PUTRAJAYA, May 8 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today that he is glad that his proposed peace plan has been well accepted by the majority of MCA members including rival leaders in the party.

He said that MCA members could forget about their quarrel and look forward to strengthening the party.

"As a senior member in Barisan Nasional, it is important that MCA remains strong to ensure the stability of the coalition," he told a gathering of 500 people representing 200 Chinese associations and guilds at Laman Putra here to show their support for the prime minister in resolving the MCA crisis.

Dr Mahathir said that initially, when problems started in the MCA, he felt that he should leave it to the party leaders to resolve the problem themselves.

"But it became clear that they cannot resolve their problems without some help, so I made some suggestions," he said.

Dr Mahathir said that he was happy that the two factions had accepted his suggestion and because of it, the party is back as a united force.

"They (Team A & Team B) have been talking together and they told me that they have achieved 90 per cent support of a single list of candidates...that means no contest," he said.

Dr Mahathir urged new leaders in MCA to forget about their past quarrels and to focus on efforts to strengthen the party.

"The most important is not who wins but the most important is that the MCA wins," he said, met by applause from the crowd.

Dr Mahathir said that the MCA must always remain strong for the benefit of the Chinese community in the country.

Earlier, Thomas Leong from the Malaysia Hainanese Graduates and Professional Guild praised Dr Mahathir for his involvement in the MCA crisis.

He said that the Chinese community does not view the peace proposal as an interference by Umno and any such suggestion is mischievous and dangerous.

He later presented Dr Mahathir a scroll with Chinese calligraphy which, translated, means that "When a horse is given a task, it brings great success". "Ma" in Chinese means "horse", referring to "Mahathir".

-- BERNAMA

AKT AT AHH RM