

Bersatu pays tribute to frontliners

The Star - 9/9/2020 pg. 4

Their sacrifices can never be repaid, says Muhyiddin at party's anniversary dinner

By ZAKIAH KOYA
newsdesk@thestar.com.my

KUALA LUMPUR: Frontliners took centre stage at the fourth anniversary dinner of Parti Pribumi Bersatu Malaysia as Prime Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin said their sacrifices could never be repaid.

The Bersatu president praised the frontliners from the health and security agencies for making the country one of the best managed globally in the Covid-19 pandemic.

"I salute the frontliners for without them, we will not be here today as they leave their loved ones and carry out their duties day and night. We will never be able to repay them back. Thank you.

"We now have 15 million returning to work to earn their keep for their families although there were challenges. These are unusual times, unprecedented times," said Muhyiddin at the Bersatu dinner at the Malaysia International Trade and Exhibition Centre here yesterday.

He said that although the four-year-old ruling party was set up to save the social economy of Malaysia in 2016, the new Perikatan Nasional government had managed to lead the country in "extraordinary times" with the support of all including the Cabinet.

"If we had not handled the Covid-19 pandemic smartly, we would have been threatened and the lives of our people in peril.



Show of support:

Muhyiddin arriving at Bersatu's fourth anniversary dinner at the Malaysia International Trade and Exhibition Centre. (Inset) Muhyiddin presenting an appreciation award to Dr Kuldip. Looking on is Bersatu deputy president Datuk Seri Ahmad Faizal Azumu. — Bernama



"But beware, the danger is still there - we had 100 cases yesterday.

"I am not praising myself ... they call me 'abah' (father) as they feel comfortable and believe that under Perikatan, their future is guaranteed," said Muhyiddin.

More than 3,000 party leaders including Bersatu's new supreme

council line-up, Cabinet members, state leaders and Perikatan representatives attended the event.

They were joined by representatives of frontliners from government health and security agencies including Sungai Buloh Hospital director Dr Kuldip Kaur as well as top officers of the police, army and

Fire and Rescue Department, who were presented with awards in recognition of their work in battling the pandemic.

Muhyiddin said the party had gone through much during its short tenure as the government of the day with Perikatan.

"Today, we are leading the gov-

ernment. I thank God and my fellow parties who supported Perikatan and me until the King chose me as the eighth Prime Minister (in February).

"Even though we are only this old, we have reached some important milestones in our struggles. We started ideas to start a new platform. At the beginning, it was for the social economy which was shaky.

"It came from my idea but it would have no meaning if this struggle was without the support of the Malays, bumiputra and the Malaysian rakyat who felt responsible to raise the nation to a more respected level," said Muhyiddin.

He also urged Bersatu members to work together with other Perikatan parties.

"Do not ask me when the election is, just work as if the election would be tomorrow.

"While we celebrate our fourth anniversary, this is an important time for us to think of our vision and mission in the years to come, how we can bring Malaysia to a better future and how all Malaysians can experience peace and happiness," said Muhyiddin.

Earlier, Bersatu secretary-general and Home Minister Datuk Seri Hamzah Zainudin said the party started with 41,000 members and now had more than 500,000 members nationwide.

"Our promise is to reach one million members and this will be our gift to our president," he said.