

# Dr M mulls National Recovery Council in Parliament, puts aside politics

The Malaysian Reserve - 9/7/2021  
pg. 3

*'The priority now is to tackle the pandemic, alleviate the problems faced by the people and restore the nation to its footing'*

by RAHIMI YUNUS

FORMER Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad is planning to propose establishing a National Recovery Council in the Parliament to resolve the health and socio-economic crises brought on by the pandemic.

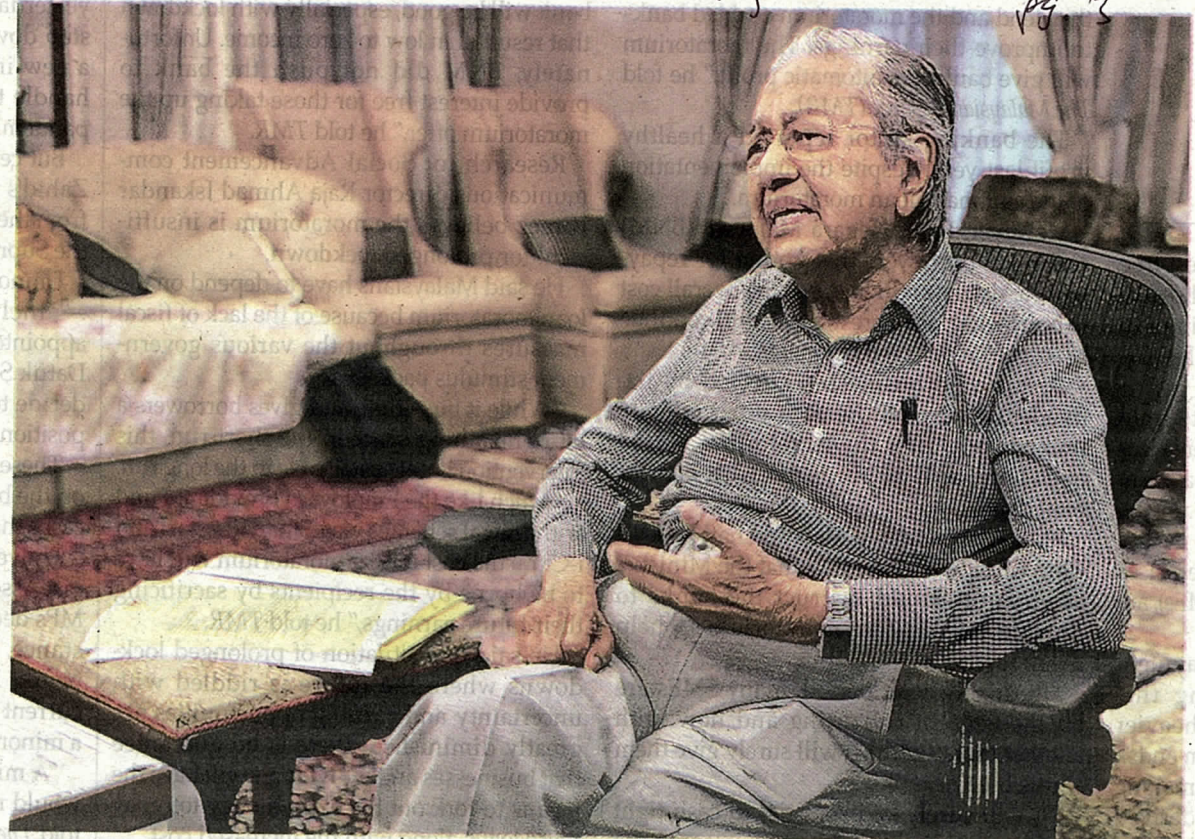
The Parti Pejuang Tanah Air's chairman said the priority now is to tackle the pandemic, alleviate the problems faced by the people and restore the nation to its footing.

He said Pejuang's focus now is not on politics, but to work harder to resolve the crises for the sake of the people and the country.

"Efforts to restore the condition of the people are the priorities. We are not into politics now, and politics is not the way to resolve the problems," Dr Mahathir said in a virtual press conference yesterday.

He said the prospective National Recovery Council would comprise professionals and experts in health, economy, psychology and sociology to think of the solutions needed to fight the pandemic specifically.

He also said the proposed independent body would need support from the government and be



Source: Dr M's office

**The proposed independent body would need support from the govt and be given enough authority to execute its plans, says Dr M**

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"Power must be given to the organisation. There is no use if they were just to be an advisory body to the government because the latter usually rejects the solutions that come from other people," he added.

Meanwhile, the Langkawi MP said Pejuang had been officially registered as a political party

yesterday, enabling them to work more aggressively to help the people.

Dr Mahathir said Pejuang had requested the Parliament house speaker to expedite the Parliament sitting and for the motion of creating the National Recovery Council to be tabled.

For his constituency, he said there are plans in the pipeline, including an offer by certain

parties to get all some 70,000 people of Langkawi vaccinated.

Dr Mahathir said the vaccines offered are the type that has the efficacy against the Delta variant of Covid-19.

He hoped the government would not delay the approval for the use of the vaccine to quickly reduce Covid-19 cases in Langkawi and enable the area to be opened again for economic activities.