

**Bersih's demos an attempt to bring down Putrajaya, says Dr M
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Demonstrations organised by The Coalition for Clean and Fair Elections, or Bersih, are obviously meant to incite public support to discredit Putrajaya and eventually bring it down, Dr Mahathir Mohamad today said.

In his latest blog post, the former prime minister said BN had been accused of cheating in previous general elections, and demonstrations would be held to justify rejecting the results of the 14th national polls should the coalition win again.

"Massive and continuous demonstrations would then be held. Bersih would hope to attract millions to participate in these demonstrations, which would be daily affairs.

"The intention of these Bersih demonstrations would be to disrupt the daily lives of the rakyat," Dr Mahathir (pic) said.

"Obviously, there are Malaysians who would like to bring down the elected government through demonstrations," he added.

Dr Mahathir said that while Malaysia had been spared the instability due to massive prolonged street demonstrations, the signs were already evident.

"The next step may be to occupy government buildings, and the police would be provoked into taking violent actions.

"International news agencies and their crews would record the violence which would then be broadcast throughout the world to discredit the ruling government."

Dr Mahathir also took a swipe at international news agencies, saying violence by the demonstrators would not be recorded or shown.

"We see in Egypt, Ukraine and Thailand, how the opposition resorts to mass demonstrations in order to overthrow duly-elected, majority governments.

"In Egypt and Ukraine, the elected governments have been overthrown," he said.

He noted it was strange how even after fresh elections, when the elected government was agreed on by the majority, the minority still continues with street demonstrations.

"The end result is continuous instability and sufferings by Malaysians. In particular, the businessmen of small and medium enterprises suffer, and a situation similar to anarchy prevails."

Dr Mahathir said Malaysia might join the ranks of unstable countries incapable of being governed, much less being developed, in the future.

"It is time for the world to make up its mind. Does the government come into power via voting or street demonstrations?"

He acknowledged that democracy was not perfect, but insisted it was by far the best system of government that Malaysia could have.

"If democracy is to survive and to serve the purpose for which it was devised, there must be some acceptance of the limits to the freedom which we consider democratic."

Free speech, free press, demonstrations and strikes must be circumscribed to some degree so that they will not destroy democracies in the name of democracy, he said. – April 29, 2014.

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