

ST 21 MAY 1973
KUALA LUMPUR,

Sun.—Many Umno and PAS members still do not understand fully the reasons for forming the Alliance-PAS coalition Government, Senator Dr. Mahathir said here today.

“Because of this, they are taking on each other like rival football teams,” he said when opening the delegates meeting of the Umno Batu Division, at the Kampong Batu Religious School.

Dr. Mahathir, who is in the Umno Supreme Council, said these members do not know that their action does not bring any benefits to the Malays.

‘No thought’

“What each group wants is victory in the struggle without considering the effect of their actions and whether the actions would change the destiny of the Malays.

“This is the antic of a football team which knows only to battle against the other team,” he added.

Dr. Mahathir said the situation did not arise in areas where there were few Malays but in States like Kelantan, Trengganu, Kedah and Perlis.

He said that conflicts among Malays would weaken the general position of the Malays.

He said leaders of both parties fully understand the concepts and reasons for the formation of the coalition Government.

Criticisms

“Unfortunately, this understanding does not reach the level of the ordinary members and most of these people are uneasy over the coalition,” he said.

Dr. Mahathir also criticised some Malays for losing enthusiasm and determination after a few years of struggle.

Among these people were Malay youths who have worked as car park attendants.

The Government scrapped parking meters around Kuala Lumpur just to create jobs for them.

“But after some time these boys began to disappear from the parking lots.