

People's demands and role of Umno leaders

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IPOH, Friday.
DEPUTY Prime Minister Dr. Mahathir Mohamed reminded Umno leaders today they are equally responsible to the Government as they are to the people. They must fully understand their position and duties when making demands for the people, he told about 500 Umno members

and leaders.

They must not just press for demands but also inform the people why the government could not be able to meet all their requirements.

Dr. Mahathir said that although over \$18,000 million would be needed for development projects under the Third Malaysia Plan, the Government would not be able to satisfy all the wishes of the people.

"This is when the people will start blaming the Government for not being able to meet their demands," he said. "Party leaders must then explain to the people why their demands could not be met.

More active

"You must also understand that the Government needs a substantial sum of money to look after security.

"In time to come, the communist terrorists would be more active. So, in order to combat them we have to buy more weapons and recruit more soldiers and these would incur heavy

expenditure."

Dr. Mahathir said Umno leaders should not work only to gain popularity.

He also called on reporters to play their parts as responsible citizens by not giving wrong reports to readers.

"Wrong impression or sensitive issues will only create disunity among the people," he said.