

Dr. M warns of stab- in-back danger

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SABAK BERNAM, Sun. — Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad today warned UMNO members to be on the look-out for a group of party sympathisers who make use of their positions to stab UMNO in the back by supporting PAS.

He said this group, consisting of several people, established close contact with the party by attending party meetings and liaised with party leaders. But of late, they proved to be "a thorn in the flesh" by actively helping the opponent party.

"These opportunists exist, especially in Kuala Lumpur and other places and these are the people whom we should be careful of.

"They are the opportunists who stay close with Umno to reap all the benefits as party sympathisers, but using their positions to support the opponent parties, especially PAS," he said.

Speaking at the opening of the Sabak Bernam Umno delegates' meeting here, Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir said if these opportunists were not wiped out, more members would be influenced into joining forces with the opponent parties to crush Umno.

"These 'thorn in the flesh' combine forces with the opponent party (PAS) to crush Umno," he said.

Businessmen

He hinted that these people were businessmen who would not join the party "on the pretext of not mixing their business affairs with politics."

"These opportunists should be exposed and asked to declare their stand. They cannot enjoy the positions and benefits given them by the party while secretly supporting the opponent parties," he added.

He said he did not know whether these people were party members but he was sure that they did not hold any posts in the party.

Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir also warned Umno members to stamp out crooked practices to win votes.

He said in the election of office bearers in Umno divisions, there were some people in certain divisions who beefed up