

# No plans to form multi-racial party: Mahathir

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**KUALA LUMPUR, Fri. — Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad** told the Dewan Rakyat today that the Government had no plans to dissolve the component parties in the National Front and form one multi-racial party.

He also disagreed with the view of Mr V. David (DAP-Damansara) that the component parties in Front were communal parties which thwart solidarity.

"I trust that the honourable member knows about the history of the birth of these parties and the formation of the National Front, formerly the Alliance, which created a united front enabling us to achieve independence," the Deputy Prime Minister said in reply to Mr V. David.

Mr David had asked whether the Government would dissolve the component parties to form one multi-racial party to ensure national unity.

Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir said if there

was no merger of the three parties (Umno, MCA, MIC), there was a great possibility that this country could not gain independence and enjoy development.

## Obstacle

The formation of the National Front was another step forward in furthering the concept of co-operation towards greater unity among the people, he added.

Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir said com-

munal-based political parties did not constitute an obstacle to the Government's efforts to foster unity.

Rather, communal sentiments raised by political parties which played communal politics in the interests of a particular community hindered efforts to bring about greater unity among the people.

He added that there were parties like the DAP which claimed it was multi-racial but actually held a narrow communal view.

In reply to a supplementary question from a backbencher as to whether the Government intended to ban the DAP in view of the communal politics it played, the Deputy Prime Minister said "not at this stage as we have confidence in the majority of the people".