

# Selfish 'big shots' a threat to Govt — PM

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KUALA LUMPUR, Sat. — There is no threat more dangerous to a clean, efficient and trustworthy system of Government than the so-called "big shot" who uses his position for his own ends.

Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today any system of Government could be destroyed by people who abuse it and who insist on priority for themselves — without giving second thoughts to the problems that might affect others.

This happens, he said, when some individuals with position,

abilities of politicians, from Ministerial level to the lowest ranking of-

name and who were strong party supporters "see themselves as being exempted from the ordinary processes of law ... so much so (Government) officers feel threatened if they don't provide them with special treatment".

The Prime Minister said this at the opening of the MIC's 30th general assembly.

## Mandate

Such people, he added, were so arrogant that they even went against the country's laws, such as traffic regulations.

"If the law provides, for example, specific measurements for car number plates, these arrogant people feel they are exempted.

"Law enforcement then becomes confused," said Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir.

Malaysians should cooperate and feel proud about the establishment of a clean, efficient and trustworthy Government, he said.

The Prime Minister reiterated the importance of the people giving their support to the system — the slogan and its meaning must be fully understood so that it becomes part and parcel of Malaysian life.

He also placed equal emphasis on the respon-

sible, to fulfil election promises.

The people have given us the mandate, he said, we must now deliver the goods.

"The people have shown us they want a Government that will carry out national policies with determination and courage; they want an administration and service that is good, friendly and fast; they want a better life with fairness and efficiency," he said.

"It is now up to us in the Government to do what we have said we will do."

Dr Mahathir told the gathering of more than 300 MIC delegates and guests the determination to fulfil pledges must stem from a genuine intention to serve the people — not for want of praise or position.

He urged politicians and civil servants to work towards re-identifying the people's problems — not from the windows of their VIP rooms, but by experiencing what the ordinary citizen has to go through daily.

They must use the kind of service provided for the people — not the priority channels which are at their disposal.

All the Government's good intentions would not be realised if politicians and party supporters insisted on playing politics, power struggle and bending rules in the belief that the Government would protect their interests.