

PM: Don't fight non- existent enemies

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THE Prime Minister called on Umno members not to waste their time fighting enemies and problems that did not exist.

"We must instead focus our attention on problems facing us and whatever enemies that lie between us and the achievement of our aspirations," he said.

There was no point creating unnecessary suspicion towards Umno leaders as this would only lead to a rift in the party.

He said: "If members cannot trust the leaders, who else can they trust?"

Example

Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir said the people should not be ashamed of what they do, or develop an inferiority complex over issues which others might laugh at.

On the recent Government's decision to cut the salaries of Cabinet Ministers, Deputy Ministers, Parliamentary Secretaries, he said although the cuts were not substantial, they nevertheless served a symbolic purpose in line with the Government's economy drive.

A delegate from Johore had during the debate said the cut had become a laughing matter among the people who compared it with the recent increase in the pay of the Singapore Prime Minister.

Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir said there were reasons for various Government decisions and the people should be proud of them.

"We should not always think that what we do is stupid and what others do is clever," he said.

On leadership by example, Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir told the assembly that it was not possible for him to do everything as examples for the people to follow.

"It is enough that I call on the people to work hard towards anything good," he said.

After all, he quipped, if the leader had to show everything as an example of what he said, "then I also have to do some construction work myself if I call for more houses to be built!"

"And if that is the case, then nothing will happen until the leader starts it ... and that will be the end of me."