

Banking on right approach

By SHUKOR RAHMAN

JITRA, Sat. — It was Umno's strength that enabled the party to withstand the challenges during the recent constitutional crisis, Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said here today.

"Some said we gave in too much. But it has always been our policy to adopt a middle-of-the-road approach," he added.

"And this is why Umno has always been effective."

The Prime Minister urged the people to devote their attention to national development now that the crisis is over.

He said this when laying the foundation stone for a \$1 million business complex for Bumiputeras at the new township of Laka Temin, near here.

Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir stressed the need for Umno to strengthen its "spirit of struggle".

He said a party like Umno

would not be able to carry out its struggle for the betterment of the people without such spirit.

"Umno is now 36 years old and during this period it has become richer in terms of finance and membership.

"However, we must ensure that it does not become poor in spirit."

The Prime Minister congratulated Kubang Pasu Umno Youth and Wanita movements for their pledge of loyalty to the party and country and said such a pledge symbolised the "spirit of struggle".

He said the present leaders of Umno would one day make way for the young.

He added that it was vital for the young to have this "spirit of struggle".

Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir advised Umno politicians not to be dependent on money and wealth to buy votes as he wanted the party to remain clean, sincere and trustworthy.

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