

# WHY P.M. ATTENDED NASSAU MEET

THE Prime Minister chose to attend the Commonwealth Head of Government Meeting (CHOGM) in Nassau, Bahamas recently, after opting not to attend the previous two occasions, because he felt Malaysia had to make a point con-

cerning apartheid in South Africa, the Dewan was told yesterday.

Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad was not out to blaze a popularity trail when he went to the Bahamas, Deputy Foreign Affairs Minister Kadir Sheikh Fadzir

said when replying to Mr Tan Kok Hooi (BN-Padang Serai).

He said Dr Mahathir did not attend the meetings in Melbourne (1981) and New Delhi (1983) as he was not convinced that the meetings were not at all effective in

solving the problems faced by developing countries, especially in economics and trade.

The Prime Minister believed cooperation from the developed and rich nations in the Commonwealth in solving

Third World members' woes was lacking.

He said Dr Mahathir went to Nassau in order to present Malaysia's case against South Africa and to urge the world to take joint economic sanctions against its apartheid policies.

AST 30 OCT 1985