

# Dr M: A 51pc

# MAJORITY

TAR 24 JUL 1986

# WILL NOT DO

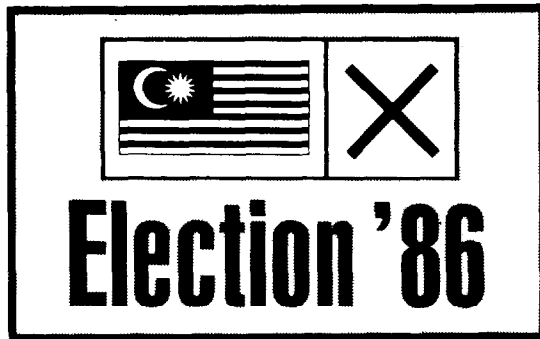
ALOR STAR, Tues. — The Barisan Nasional government needs a two-thirds majority in the election to rule the country effectively, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said tonight.

He said that without this majority, the Government would not be strong enough to tackle problems effectively.

"Even if we get a majority of 51 or 52 per cent, it will be difficult for the Barisan to rule the country effectively," he said.

He said if the BN had just this majority, there would be struggle for power by the opposition.

The Barisan would then be so involved in the political arena that the administration of the country would be neglected, he said.



Dr Mahathir, who is also Barisan chairman, was speaking to leaders and members of the State Barisan component parties at the State Umno headquarters.

Dr Mahathir said that "we decided to hold this snap election to get the mandate of the people so we can go ahead bravely with a two-third majority to tackle these problems."

He pointed out that the opposition parties were capitalising on the drop in prices for tin, rubber, palm oil and unemployment to deny the Barisan the majority.

"It is unfair of them to use these as political issues because the prices are controlled by the market.

"These opposition parties are only out to create instability," he said.

Dr Mahathir challenged the opposition parties to buy the commodities to raise the prices.

He also asked the parties whether they could provide jobs for the unemployed.

"The opposition also does not know how to attract foreign investors to the country," he said.