

# The opposition can't help you, says PM

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ALOR STAR, Fri. — Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad told farmers and fishermen in Kedah and Perlis to reject the candidates of opposition parties as there was little they could do to help them.

The Barisan Nasional is going to be returned to power and voting in candidates from the component parties will further strengthen the position of the Government in implementing projects for the people.

"We must have a strong Government," he told gatherings in Langgar and Kuala Kedah in Kedah and Tambun Tulang in Perlis.

The Prime Minister said the Barisan Nasional Government was always thinking of new projects to improve the livelihood of the people.

"What has the Opposition done? What has Pas

done except to undermine the nation's stability through its divisive campaign among the Malays.

"Pas is a pest," he told farmers at the launching of the Mada's Integrated Pest Control Programme in Tambun Tulang.

Dr Mahathir said projects had been, were being, and would be implemented to help small businessmen and hawkers.

## Interfere

The Malay participation in this area is still small and therefore they are being helped by such Government agencies like Mara.

"In helping the Malays, the other races have not been neglected," he said at the opening of the Mara Arcade in Kangar.

In the morning, shortly after his arrival in Alor Star, he opened a hostel of an Arabic Secondary School in Langgar.

At the ceremony, he criticised the action of Pas in setting up schools where the children are taught to hate the Government.

"Our understanding of Islam is based on what has been taught to us by our parents and our teachers. Therefore, it is important that in the teaching of religion, the teachers should not allow their political leanings to interfere in the teaching of the subject."

In Kuala Kedah, the Prime Minister spoke to fishermen and later handed donations to victims of a recent fire.

He said fishermen affected by any Government policy in relation to their livelihood should not protest by voting for the Opposition.

That will not solve their problem. They should voice it to the Government which will consider their objections.

"It is unfortunate that a policy for the general good sometimes inconvenienced small pockets of people. But should they bring up their dissatisfaction to the notice of representatives of the Government, everything possible will be done to help them."

Later, Agriculture Minister Datuk Seri Samusi Junid told reporters that he would visit fishing communities throughout the nation after National Day to get the feedback about the recent amendment to the Fisheries Act.

The Prime Minister prayed at the Ayer Meleleh mosque in his Kubang Pasu constituency before going to Perlis. — ZAINON AHMAD