

# Mahathir leads team in campaign

# Barisan show of solidarity

By ZAINON AHMAD  
NST 15 APR 1987

**SIBU, Tues. — The Barisan Nasional backs all the 48 candidates contesting under its banner in the Sarawak State elections.**

Its chairman Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said this was in the "family tradition" of the Barisan Nasional.

To symbolise this support, Dr Mahathir arrived in the State with leaders of the other component parties of the coalition — MCA president Datuk Dr Ling Liong Sik, MIC president Datuk S. Samy Vellu and Gerakan president Datuk Dr Lim Keng Yaik.

Parti Pesaka Bumiputra Bersatu (PBB), the Sarawak United People's Party (SUPP) and Sarawak National Party (SNAP) are fielding 48 candidates in order to once again form the Barisan Nasional Government of the State.

The show of support today is expected to

silence claims that the Sarawak Barisan Nasional parties had been abandoned by their counterparts and the leaders from the peninsula.

During their four-hour visit Dr Mahathir and his Cabinet colleagues visited the township of Matu in the State constituency of Matu Daro where PBB incumbent Wahab Dollah is challenged by former Yang di-Per-tua Negeri and Persatuan Rakyat Malaysia Sarawak (Permas) president Tun Abdul Rahman Yakub.

They also visited Sarikei in Repok State constituency where SUPP incumbent David Teng is strongly challenged by the DAP.

In Sarikei, Dr Mahathir laid the foundation stone of a community centre.

He delivered the same message when speaking at the gatherings in Matu and Sarikei but said that though it was delivered at these two places it was meant for the whole State.

The speeches were broadcast live by RTM Sarawak.

He said it was unfortunate that the Government had to be dissolved in mid-term

## ON PAGE 3

- TAIB ISSUES CHALLENGE TO BUJANG ULIS
- RAHMAN HAS FORSAKEN BARISAN PRINCIPLES, SAYS TAIB
- POLICE ADVICE TO VOTERS

when many development projects were still in the process of being implemented.

Dr Mahathir hoped this would not recur in the State and elsewhere in the country as it would affect development programmes and the losers would be the people.

He said should any change be desired, it should be carried out in an orderly manner and through consultations so that it would not affect the administration and necessitate a general election.

The people must continue to preserve the

★ TURN TO P3, COL 4

# 'Family spirit' is the Barisan way

★ FROM PAGE ONE  
MST 15 APR 1987

Malaysian family spirit and each race must avoid projecting its needs without regard for the needs of the others.

"No race can have its needs fully and absolutely satisfied. This is just not possible if the harmony of our multi-racial society is to be maintained," he said.

However, he said, if these needs were presented for discussion by all parties then a consensus could be reached.

Dr Mahathir said this was the way the Barisan Nasional operated and hoped this spirit would be maintained.

He said the Barisan Nasional concept had brought about a fair power-sharing

among all communities and did not take into consideration the interests of one community only.

"We cannot think only of the interests of one community as this will create dissatisfaction among the other communities."

The Prime Minister said that in the peninsula the Malays were in the majority but had established a tradition of co-operation with the other communities.

Likewise, the majority community in Sarawak needs to co-operate with the other communities, he said.

The population of Sarawak is made up of about 46 per cent Dayaks, 30 per cent Chinese and 24 per cent Malays.