

No reason for confrontation now, says PM

KUALA LUMPUR, Sat. — Confrontation between workers' unions and employers should be reduced to give way to greater cooperation for the economic well-being of the nation, **Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir** said tonight.

The Prime Minister said there were now no reasons for workers to adopt a confrontational attitude towards employers as they were being treated well.

"We should see an end to confrontation. Workers' unions should work with employers.

"Both sides should have the same objective as the private and public sectors in their cooperation for the economic wellbeing of the country," he said at the *Malaysia Incorporated Games 1989* dinner at a hotel here.

The dinner is the highlight of tennis and golf games between senior officials of the private and public sectors over the past few days to promote greater cooperation.

Dr Mahathir said cooperation between workers and employers would enhance productivity and stimulate economic growth.

"Everyone will benefit. Perhaps we can have dinner together, just like this, between the public sector, the private sector and the labour unions," he said.

He added that although such a "tri-way cooperation" might be regarded "ahead of time", it would nevertheless be a "true Malaysia Incorporated" and "unbeatable".

Earlier, Chief Secretary to the Government Tan Sri Sallehuddin Mohamed said the games between senior officials of the two sectors had effectively promoted closer cooperation.

On private-public sector relations, Tan Sri Sallehuddin said while he was glad that this was no longer viewed with suspicion, the private sector should, nevertheless be conscious that the public sector would carry out its responsibility without favour.

In this regard, he said actions and practices which undermined the integrity of the public sector should be eliminated.