

# Dr M. Don't lose sight of Umno's struggle

By Kashid Bakar

KOTA BARU, Wed. — Umno president Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad tonight reminded party members not to lose sight of the basis of Umno's struggle in working to ensure victory for the Barisan Nasional in the next general election.

The Prime Minister said they should abide by the struggle so that Umno could operate on a sound footing.

"Giving priority to power play at constituency level and preoccupation with the selec-

tion of candidates for the election are instances of petty matters as compared to substantial components in the party's struggle," he said.

Dr Mahathir was speaking to reporters after attending a closed-door meeting with State Umno Youth leaders at the Umno building here.

Also present were Menteri Besar Tan Sri Haji Mohamed Yaacob, Youth and Sports Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak, who is also the Umno Youth

leader, and State Umno liaison committee members.

Dr Mahathir said that this was one of two messages he drove home at the meeting. The other was the Umno's preparations for the election.

"What is important is not certain people getting chosen as candidates in the election, but the party's triumph in the election."

At the meeting, Dr Mahathir stressed on the need for Umno members to be always on their toes in prepar-

ing for the election.

"There should be no let-up in preparations for the election."

On the position of the State Umno, he said the party was getting stronger each day.

He was confident that the Barisan Nasional would remain in power in the State.

On claims by Pas and Semangat 46 that Kelantan is their stronghold, he said: "Let's wait for the election."

On the leadership crisis within the State Umno Youth, Dr Mahathir said the matter has been resolved.