

PM: We don't need such leaders

ST 19 JUN 1990

By Manan Osman
and Shamsul Akmar

KAMPUNG BAJA (Besut), Mon. — Opposition party leaders who attend **kenduri** and actively help out at such functions are not necessarily the kind of leaders the nation wants, Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said.

The Prime Minister said the people should not be overwhelmed by opposition leaders who attend these **kenduri** and make all sorts of promises.

The people should respond positively to leaders who can help form a strong Government and who can administer without bowing to pressures when implementing development policies, he said.

As such, Dr Mahathir said, the people should be wary of leaders who are actively promoting their narrow, personal interests.

Leaders from Semangat 46, the DAP and Pas have track records that portray them as being power-seekers and being untrustworthy.

The DAP is actively promoting nepotism and dictatorship, Pas is not sincere in promoting Islam and Semangat 46 exploits former leaders to gain influence, Dr Mahathir told Besut Umno leaders today.

He said a dynasty is taking shape within the DAP. DAP secretary-general Lim Kit Siang is trying hard to keep the post for life and has become more powerful than the party chairman.

The DAP hierarchy is similar to the communist system in which the secretary-general is superior to the chairman.

Dr Mahathir said: "If based on popularity, Mr Lee Lam Thye (deputy secretary-general) is a cut above Mr Lim but Mr Lee would never rise above Mr Lim because he wants the post for life.

"Even if he has to relinquish the post, Mr Lim would not allow it to fall into the hands of others but will make sure that the post remains within his family.

"In fact, he is grooming his son, Lim Eng Guan, to take over from him."

He said the opposition has many leaders who are grasshoppers — jumping from one party to another to further their sagging political careers.

He said: "Encik Zaihal Rampak (MTUC president), for instance, should never be trusted.

"He is just like a grasshopper who hops

★ PLEASE TURN TO P2, COL 6

Pas only keen on winning polls, says PM

ST 19 JUN 1990

★ FROM PAGE ONE

from one place to another searching for personal glory."

Dr Mahathir also highlighted Pas' so-called struggle to promote Islam.

He wondered how this would be possible when Pas is co-operating with a party which has no intention of promoting Islam.

Dr Mahathir said: "It just goes to show that Pas leaders are only concerned with winning an election, even at the expense of Islam."

"It is evident that Pas leaders are not sincere in their claims of fighting for the cause of Islam."

As for Semangat 46, Dr Mahathir was disappointed that the party continued to exploit former Prime Minister Tunku Abdul Rahman.

He urged Semangat 46 to stop using the Tunku for its political interests and to leave the former Premier in peace.