

Mahathir: I will continue to advise Umno members

DATUK Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said he would continue to remind Umno members to concentrate on building the party instead of spending their time politicking for party positions.

He told a press conference there was always a need to remind everyone what was right and to avoid what was wrong.

Dr Mahathir said he had given a "general advice" to all members in his presidential speech that there was no time to jostle for positions.

He had said there was no need for members to ask who would succeed who or to indulge in

meaningless predictions.

He said he did not want to see factions or cliques among the members.

He also denied a claim by an Umno Youth delegate on Thursday that it was difficult for party members and the village folk to meet their leaders, including ministers.

"I can give an assurance that in Malaysia, it is much easier to meet leaders, including the Prime Minister, compared to other countries," he said.

He said unlike leaders in some countries, he personally went shopping at supermarkets, adding that there would always be some who were dissat-

isfied when they themselves failed to meet the leaders.

Dr Mahathir said that while ministers could see many visitors, this should not be allowed to disrupt their duties.

He said the success or failure of any race depended on their values.

In his speech, Dr Mahathir had said the Malays were colonised because they were weak and had succumb to personal gains.

Asked whether his call to the Malay community to avoid the mistakes of the past was aimed at government officers and leaders, he said it was not.