

I have no agents, Dr M tells investors

By WONG CHUN WAI and ROHAIZAD A. RAHIM

KUALA LUMPUR: Some businessmen have used the Prime Minister's name or forged his signature to cheat foreign investors and the public.

Datuk Seri ~~Dr Mahathir Mohamad~~ said yesterday that there had been cases where these people claimed to be his agents to convince investors they had influence over him.

He said they normally tried to induce investors into paying them commission to ensure the projects would be approved.

"I do not have such agents," he said after chairing an Umno supreme council meeting here.

Dr Mahathir said action had been taken against a person who had forged his signature on a document. He did not elaborate. 5 - 5 JUL 1992

He said some of them even wrote letters to companies inducing them to pay commissions.

"I have no need for such commission. The Government has raised my salary and it is sufficient," said the Prime Minister.

Dr Mahathir said there were times when he intervened in private projects which were bogged down by administrative problems.

"Sometimes, I find it necessary to step in as these projects

are vital to the nation's economic development," he said.

Speaking to newsmen here yesterday, the Prime Minister also laughed off speculation that there is an impending Cabinet reshuffle.

"Never mind, they can talk about it. Even if I deny it, they will still talk about it," he said.

On the Lamborghini Diablo car issue involving the Sultan of Kelantan, Dr Mahathir said it had been settled. He declined to elaborate.

On a statement by Opposition Leader Lim Kit Siang that he (Kit Siang) knew who paid the \$2.1 million for the car without the Sultan's consent, Dr Mahathir said:

"He (Kit Siang) knows a lot. The problem with Kit Siang is that he doesn't know what he knows."

The DAP secretary-general said the Sultan had made it clear, through his palace spokesman, that he had not paid the duty, surrendered the car or authorised anyone to pay the duty on his behalf.

Dr Mahathir said the settlement meant that proper procedures had been followed.

He announced that the Barisan Nasional Youth would hold a big gathering in Kota Kinabalu in conjunction with Malaysia Day (Sept 16). But the date of the gathering has not been fixed.