

# Dr M: DAP out to spoil Melewar bid for TV4

NSP - 7 AUG 1992

KUANTAN, Thurs. — Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said the DAP had falsely speculated that the "contract" for TV4 has been awarded to the Melewar Corporation to ensure that the company did not eventually secure it.

"They want to create a situation where if the contract is awarded to the Melewar Corporation based on its merits, they can tell the people that this was expected and the Government

was biased in its selection," the Prime Minister told a Press conference here.

Dr Mahathir was asked by reporters to comment on a statement by Opposition Leader and DAP secretary-general Lim Kit Siang that a Parliamentary committee comprising MPs from all parties be set up to evaluate the tender exercise for TV4.

He added that by doing so, the DAP expected the Government not to award the job to the company.

Lim had claimed it was widely known that Melewar had been awarded the contract and that the tender exercise, to be held next month, was only a formality.

Dr Mahathir said there was no reason for the Government to set up a Parliamentary committee on the matter because such matters were handled by the executive and not the legislative wing.

"The DAP wants a Parlia-

mentary committee just because it lost the last election and has no executive powers. Matters such as the evaluation of tender is dealt by the executive wing.

"A Parliamentary committee is not necessary because the Parliament's role is to come up with legislation."

He added that if DAP MPs were given executive powers, the Government would be in chaos.

Dr Mahathir said the DAP

claimed that Melewar had been awarded the contract because the company had, on many occasions, made Press statements indicating their interest to bid for it.

On June 19, Information Ministry Parliamentary Secretary Datuk Fauzi Abdul Rahman said the claim by the DAP could not be true because the tender exercise would only be opened next month when all those who were interested could make their bids.