

# Dr M: Be wary of those out to destroy us

By Manan Osman

KUCHING, Mon. — Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad reminded the people to be constantly wary of irresponsible groups from within and outside the country which are trying to threaten the nation's peace and political stability.

The Prime Minister said there were already indications that many groups were jealous of Malaysia's success and achievements in various fields such as the economy, particularly in industrial development.

These groups were also jealous of the country's achievements in rallying developing countries in international forums on their struggle in matters concerning trade, environment, human rights and democracy.

Groups like some non-governmental organisations (NGOs), confederation of international workers' unions and local and foreign organisations were making numerous efforts to tarnish the image of the country and retard its economic growth.

Dr Mahathir said these groups harped on issues such as human rights, the freedom to embark on industrial action, environment, logging, democracy and the Penans as the basis to attack the country.

These groups are also trying to instigate countries which are friendly with Malaysia to shun it and those which have trade relations with Malaysia not to buy its goods. Their aim is to put the country under their influence.

"Our attempt to form the East Asia Economic Caucus (EAEC) in the interest of the economies and trade of this region for the benefit of the people had also received the objection of certain parties," Dr Mahathir said.

This was proof that these countries were trying hard to deny Malaysia the ability to become a developed nation and for its people to enjoy a standard of living on par with people of developed countries.

Dr Mahathir was speaking at the opening of Sarawak's Parti Pesaka Bumiputera Bersatu (PBB) triennial delegates' convention here today.

Also present were his wife, Datin Seri Dr Siti Hasmah Mohamed Ali, Chief Minister and PBB president Tan Sri Abdul Taib Mahmud and representatives of the various Barisan Nasional component parties.

Dr Mahathir, who is the BN chairman, said these people were jealous of the

PLEASE TURN TO  
PAGE 2, COL 6

# PM: Sarawak doing better than others

NSR 25 AUG 1992

FROM PAGE ONE

country's stability which had enabled it to carry out development with efficiency and perfection.

He said such a feat could be achieved as a result of BN's concept of power sharing and resolving of problems in a rational manner through negotiations.

He stressed that resolving problems through open confrontation was not BN's culture.

He said public debate would not be able to resolve problems or bring any benefit as more often feelings could not be contained.

He, therefore, stressed the need to maintain this successful concept of power sharing so that the country's political situation would continue to be stable and the people could live peacefully and harmoniously.

On Sarawak, Dr Mahathir said he was thankful that the State was able to maintain peace and stability and at the same time undergo rapid development despite numerous obstructions such as transportation problem, geographical disadvantage and the small number of people who are well dispersed and isolated.

The Prime Minister also dismissed talk among some people that Sarawak moved slowly and that it could not catch up with the rest of the

country in terms of economic development.

He said Sarawak had not only developed physically, but in some areas such as tourism, forestry and the petrochemical industry, it was much better than some States in the peninsula.

"Development has taken place in all nooks and corners of Sarawak. Even the Penans, who are not being instigated to reject changes, have achieved development which is no different from other races," he said.

Dr Mahathir said if anything could obstruct development and the equitable distribution of wealth, then it is the belief injected by foreigners that living the traditional way in the jungle was better than modern living.

He said they (foreigners) wanted to see Sarawak remain in the stone age, and that the tribes in Sarawak be made "museum pieces" which could be turned into a thesis by anthropologists.

Dr Mahathir also spoke of the importance of fostering closer rapport between the people of Sarawak and Peninsular Malaysia.

He said national integration between people separated by the South China Sea was important for their progress and the country's strength.