

# Mahathir tells MTUC to be responsible



By WONG CHUN WAI

KUALA LUMPUR: The Prime Minister has warned the Malaysian Trades Union Congress to stop depending on foreign labour movements which want to block the country's economic growth and job opportunities.

**Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said the MTUC must also stop acting as a tool for certain politicians.**

The people should know the true colours of the

MTUC leaders, whom he said put self-interest above Malaysian workers, he told newsmen after the opening of the third session of the eighth Parliament yesterday.

He was responding to criticism by Human Resources Minister Datuk Lim Ah Lek that the MTUC had not been sincere in representing the interests of the workers and had been using international unions to discredit the government.

Lim had said the MTUC

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had submitted a report for 1991-92 which contained adverse reports about the government.

The MTUC, he said, had criticised the Government for organising the Labour Day celebrations even though they had no objection when they were briefed at the National Labour Advisory Council meeting.

Dr Mahathir said if the Government acted against the MTUC, the congress would urge its foreign connections to de-

mand the United States remove its General System of Preference (GSP) privileges given to Malaysian manufactured goods.

Dr Mahathir alleged the MTUC leadership was not concerned with the possibility of Malaysians losing their jobs.

He said the composition of the Malaysian delegation to the International Labour Organisation in June had yet to be decided but anyone representing the workers was entitled to attend the meeting.