

PM: Pick sincere and capable leaders

KUALA LUMPUR: The nation must have leaders who not only can ensure the people's welfare but also promote development, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said yesterday.

"If we choose wrongly, change leaders at our whims and fancies, or choose an individual to cater to his ambition, we will lose out," the Barisan Nasional chairman said when opening the MIC general as-

sembly.

He stressed the importance of choosing leaders who were capable as they would determine the success of a nation.

He said Malaysia's success was due to leaders who were not only dedicated but also sincere in serving the people.

Malaysians, he said, could be proud of this as the country was one of the most successful in the world.

Dr Mahathir attributed the

success to the efforts and co-operation of the various groups in the country.

He said there were examples of countries which had failed because of inept leadership.

Citing Albania, he said the people there had long suffered during the communist regime under Enver Hoxha, who did not care about their welfare.

"Now that the regime is over, the country, under a new and dynamic leadership, is trying

to revitalise its economy."

As with China, Dr Mahathir said the country had prospered with the change in leadership.

Dr Mahathir also pointed out the importance of maintaining political stability to ensure progress.

In this respect, he said only the Barisan Nasional was capable of ensuring stability.

Dr Mahathir was also pleased that MIC had now become more stable and united.