

# 'Change of heart' pleases PM

By ZARINAH DAUD

**PENANG:** Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad has expressed confidence that the people of Penang are having "a change of heart" towards the Barisan Nasional government.

He said things had changed for the better among the people and he was happy to witness this during his two-day visit here.

"I am happy with their response and I hope and pray that there is a change of heart among Penangites.

"I can see the expression on their faces and I am confident that things have changed. I am also confident that the expression is not only on the surface but also at heart.

"When I officiated the new office of Kwong Wah Jit Poh which is located right in the heart of George Town, I can see the response among the people which was good.

"Everywhere along the route, people were waving at me and smiling as though they want to maintain the present Barisan Nasional state government," he said during a

dinner on Monday night hosted by the Penang BN in conjunction with his visit here.

Dr Mahathir said the changes would assist the country achieve the objectives of Vision 2020, which he said Penang could achieve much earlier.

Elaborating on his statement to reporters after opening Otis Manufacturing Sdn Bhd yesterday, Dr Mahathir said Penangites had extended a warm welcome during his visit.

He said this was different from his earlier visits

when he felt he was not welcomed by the people.

"They smile and are very friendly now and this reflects their feelings towards the BN government and its policies.

"I think generally, we are doing well and Penang has prospered. I suspect a lot of them are making money from the stock exchange and therefore they are feeling very comfortable with the government.

"They should realise the advantages of the BN government and that they should support it," he added.