

Now we have to work doubly hard, says PM

KUALA LUMPUR: Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said the stronger mandate given by the people to the Barisan Nasional Government will enable it to continue its development programme

smoothly and effectively.

Speaking to the Press after the BN's 14-party coalition was returned with a two-thirds majority at 3.30am, Dr Mahathir said: "With this mandate we have to work doubly hard. We

have a lot of plans and need time to undertake them."

He said the time (five-year mandate) was insufficient to undertake the plans and the party had to seek the mandate of the people every five years.

Dr Mahathir said the ninth general election was among the best and strongest mandate accorded to the BN.

He said the dismal performance of the DAP and Pas also reflected the maturity

of the people in rejecting parties which were harping on racial and religious sentiments.

He also said that there was no reason for Parti Melayu Semangat 46 to exist anymore following its rejection by the people.