

# View by-election with open mind, urges Dr M

KUALA LUMPUR, Wed. — Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today voters in the Gua Musang parliamentary constituency must view the by-election in the constituency with an "open mind".

They must not be influenced by anyone or allow themselves to become victims of those who are politically frustrated, the Prime Minister added.

He said it was important for them to be free of any feelings of anger or hatred when they go the polls.

"They must vote wisely," he said when asked to comment on the Kota Baru High Court's decision ordering the Election Commission to conduct a fresh election in the Gua Musang parliamentary constituency after declaring as null and void the one held on April 25.

Dr Mahathir, who was speaking to reporters at the Kuala Lumpur International Airport, Subang after his return from Los Angeles, said the Barisan Nasional was keen to help the people in the constituency.

"We hope they do not have a closed mind and are not influenced and made use of by those who are politically frustrated."

On whether the BN had any candidate in mind for the by-election, he said it may be discussed at the Umno Supreme Council meeting on Saturday.

Dr Mahathir said there was a possibility that the BN candidate would be the same, that is Datuk Hussein Ahmad, whose nomination papers were rejected in the last general election but "there may also be another person".

He was confident the BN would win the seat as the party was always well-prepared when it contests a by-election.