

Elected reps reminded to fulfil promises

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ALOR STAR, Fri. — Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad today reminded Barisan Nasional elected representatives to fulfil all the promises they made to the people in the April general election.

He stressed this when meeting elected Barisan representatives at the State party headquarters at the Bangunan Tunku here.

Dr Mahathir, who is Umno president, made a similar call when meeting members of the party's State liaison committee later.

He said he wanted them to fulfil their promises throughout their term.

The State liaison committee chairman, Tan Sri Osman Aroff, chaired the meeting which ended after 1½ hours.

Among the State Umno division heads attending the meeting were Langkawi division leader Datuk Seri Sahusi Junid, Datuk Dr Afifudin Omar (Padang Terap), Raja Datuk Ariffin Raja Sulaiman (Baling), Datuk Dr Abdul Hamid Othman (Sik) and Datuk Abdul Kadir Sheikh Fadzir (Kulim-Bandar Baru).

Dr Mahathir attended the meeting in his capacity as the Kubang Pasu Umno division chief.

"I explained the Barisan Nasional's principles to the Members of Parliament and Assemblymen and their role as leaders," he said when asked by reporters on the outcome of the State Umno liaison meeting and the meeting with the elected representatives.

Dr Mahathir said he also explained to the State leaders the position of a leader.

"No one will be a leader forever; I myself am not permanent. What's important is when we are no longer leaders, we continue to support the party," he said.

It is learnt that one of the Umno divisional leaders had asked the Prime Minister during the meeting with elected BN representatives to shed some light on Osman's position.

To this, Dr Mahathir is understood to have said that leaders "come and go".

Later, Dr Mahathir was asked to comment on speculation surrounding Osman's position as the Menteri Besar.

"You ask the Menteri Besar, he's here," he replied when asked if Osman would remain as the Menteri Besar until the year 2000.

On how the speculation could be stopped, Dr Mahathir said:

"It's up to the Press. If you want to speculate, what can I do? I have already said the Press always speculates... one day they will be right, I am quite sure.

"Therefore, you keep on (speculating)... like the election date. If it's not tomorrow, it's the day after, another month, 10 more months ... sometimes you

PLEASE TURN TO
PAGE 2, COL 8

Dr Mahathir Mohamad

AUG 13 AUG 1995

Gunning for clear win at next polls

□ FROM PAGE ONE

will get it right," he said.

Dr Mahathir said the State Umno liaison committee meeting also discussed the performance of Kedah Umno in the April general election.

"Our achievement is good. We won 34 out of 36 State seats," he said, adding that the committee would rectify the weaknesses of the last general election so that it would be able to achieve a 100 per cent success in the next election.
