

09/10/1998

Be aware of opposition's motive, warns Dr M

Hamisah Hamid

PRIME Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad yesterday reminded Umno members about the opposition's tactics in using Non-Governmental Organisations to create problems in the country.

Dr Mahathir, who is also Umno president, called on the members to be aware of the opposition's motive of fishing in the muddy water by setting up the Gerak organisation.

He also urged the members to be committed and uphold the party's interest above anything to avoid split within Umno.

In one-hour closed-door meeting with Umno Information representatives nationwide, held in Kuala Lumpur, the Prime Minister called for the Malays to work harder to ensure the party's unity.

This was conveyed to reporters after the meeting by Umno Information Chief Datuk Dr Yusof Noor.

Yusof said during the meeting, the delegations had expressed their full support to Dr Mahathir and had asked him to continue his service in leading the country and bring it out from the economic turmoil.

He said the one-day course held for the Umno Information delegates yesterday sought to strengthen the party's information machinery so that confusion will not arise among the members on the current situation.

Meanwhile, Education Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak said action will be taken against universities' students and lecturers who were involved in the illegal gatherings.

He said each university's disciplinary board, after receiving reports from the police, will determine the appropriate actions against the students and lecturers.

Najib, who is also Umno vice-president, said the action will depend on their level of involvement in the illegal gatherings.

"The most important thing is that we tell the students that what they are doing is wrong under the University Act.

"They are still young and should not let themselves be influenced by unhealthy activities ... they should be professional students," he told reporters.

(END)