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Foreign media `creating rift`

KUALA LUMPUR, Sat. - Umno president Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said the party is united, but there are people outside, especially certain sections of the foreign media, which try to make out differences between him and his deputy, Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim.

"Certain statements are analysed and made use as evidence that there are differences between us. But it is not true. We get along as well as can be.

"Of course, there are problems we are faced with, but we work closely together."

Asked whether there were also sections in the local media raising negative issues, Dr Mahathir said: "There appears to be some slant, which reflects acceptance of calls made by the foreign media.

"The words used by the foreign media have been picked up (by the local media), as if it is the truth."

He said he believed next week's general assembly would result in a better understanding of the economic problems on the part of the members.

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