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PM: Give full support to Barisan Nasional candidates

KUALA LUMPUR, Sun. - Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad today said members of the Barisan Nasional coalition should not question the candidates appointed to contest in the Nov 29 polls once the final list was out.

The BN chairman said the list would be decided by the leadership of the coalition.

He said the only factor that could lead to BN's defeat was the tussle for seats among members of the coalition. Thus, any decision made by the leadership should be respected.

"There should be no questions once the list of candidates has been finalised. The BN leadership will decide on the best candidates and this decision should be respected.

"We can only win if we are disciplined," Dr Mahathir said when addressing the BN Youth and Wanita election machinery at the Putra World Trade Centre here.

Also present was BN director of elections Tan Sri Khalil Yaakob and Youth and Wanita leaders of component parties.

Dr Mahathir said once the candidate was appointed, all component parties should work together to ensure victory.

"We must see that candidate as the appointee of Barisan Nasional...who represents the dacing (the BN symbol)," he said.

Dr Mahathir said the election was not a popularity test.

"The election is to get the people's mandate to establish a Government which can bring more prosperity and development."

Dr Mahathir said Malaysians did not want a Government which was appointed by (US vice-president) Al-Gore or controlled by the International Monetary Fund but one that was voted in by the people.

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