

PM confident of BN victory in Lunas

'Opposition coalition will play up racial sentiments to gain votes'

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LANGKAWI, Tues: Prime Minister and Barisan Nasional (BN) coalition chairman Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad believes that BN will win the Lunas by-election but with a reduced majority since the Opposition has fielded a Malay candidate.

He said this was what happened in the Teluk

Kemang parliamentary seat where the Indians supported Indians and the Malays supported Malays.

He also said the opposition coalition will play up racial sentiments in its campaign.

"I am sure that Keadilan will use racial issues as that was the reason for them to convince the DAP to with-

draw. They hope to reduce our majority but I don't think they can win it," he said after the last session of the Langkawi International Dialogue.

"However, their motive is to deliberately divide the Malays.

"Keadilan is not aiming for a victory as their initial intentions are apparently to

split the Malays."

Mahathir called on Lunas constituents to vote for the BN which has a proven track record.

"We have won in the past... Umno candidates have even won in constituencies where Malays are the minority," he said.

"I am confident that BN will win the Lunas seat."