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Take note of PM's warning, MPs advised

MEMBERS of Parliament should pay attention to the Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad's warning that those absent from the Dewan Rakyat sitting would not be renominated for the next general election.

Backbenchers Club president Datuk Dr Jamaluddin Jarjis said this directive was appropriate as MPs represented the people and they had to be serious in carrying out their duties.

"People have entrusted us therefore we must carry out our responsibilities well. We are the voice of the people and there is nothing we can do for them if we are not present at Parliament.

"Dr Mahathir should also prepare a mechanism to record the performance of MPs."

On MPs who have to attend other official functions or party meetings, Jamaluddin said BBC will coordinate the MPs responsibilities to make sure no one was slacking.

"We will co-ordinate the MPs responsibilities in such a way that we maintain our performance (in the Dewan Rakyat) and it is not at the expense of our responsibilities here," Jamaluddin, who is also Rompin MP, said.

Yesterday, Dr Mahathir said Barisan Nasional MPs who were frequently absent from Dewan Rakyat sittings may not be considered for renomination for the next general election.

He said their attendance would be noted and taken down, and will be taken into account when the list of candidates for the general election was being prepared.

Datuk Ruhanie Ahmad, MP for Parit Sulong, said the MPs should not allow the Opposition members to play up the issue of BN MPs poor attendance.

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