

# PM refuses further comment on takeover by Huaren

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PETALING JAYA, Fri: The Prime Minister today refused to comment further on the takeover of *Nanyang Siang Pau* and *China Press* by MCA's investment arm, Huaren Holdings.

Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad was pressed for comments by reporters over the recent incidents which ensued following the MCA central committee's decision to go ahead with the takeover of the two Chinese papers.

Questioned on the action of some groups who are seek-

ing his help to stop the takeover, he said: "This is a business deal, how can I interfere?"

On the widening rift in the party following the decision, he said: "I wouldn't know that ... you can't expect me to comment on something that you say."

Yesterday, the National Assembly of Chinese Organisations Against MCA Takeover of Nanyang Press sent an open letter to Mahathir appealing to him to stop the takeover.