

We knew PAS-DAP rift was coming, says Dr M

SHAH ALAM: Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said he anticipated the rift between PAS and DAP over the issue of an Islamic state as their co-operation is a "partnership between two thieves" which will eventually break.

"DAP and PAS are incompatible as they have different ideologies," the Prime Minister said.

He said this when asked to comment on the widening rift between the two parties on the Islamic state issue.

The Prime Minister refuted claims by the opposition that the current rift between PAS and DAP was manipulated by the Barisan Nasional government to destabilise the co-operation among the opposition coalition.

"They can say what they want to say. DAP should allow PAS to set up an Islamic state and abolish all the civil courts and then PAS can try (Lim) Kit Siang in their Syariah Court," he quipped.

On the reappointment of Kofi Annan as United Nations Secretary-General, Dr Mahathir said Malaysia supported him as he was fully committed to global peace.

The Prime Minister also confirmed the appointment of Datuk Dr Yusof Nor as the new chairman of FELDA.

In Penang, MCA president Datuk Seri Dr Ling Liong Sik said the real face of PAS and "the two faces of DAP" were coming out in the open following the current rift.

"I am surprised the DAP continues to lead the Chinese to face the situation despite knowing PAS' intention of setting up of an Islamic state," he told reporters after opening the state MCA convention yesterday.

Dr Ling said the laws in Kelantan, which was ruled by PAS, were different from other states as the state's penalty for apostasy was death.