

Leaders will solve problem, SUN - 5 AUG 2001 says PM

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said the MCA is too important a party to be weakened by differences within it.

He said the party leaders are well aware of the problems, and that he is confident they will resolve them.

"Differences within a party is common but this time around, there may be more than the normal tension between members.

"Nevertheless, the leaders will have their own way to resolve them for the sake of the party.

"And they are aware that the party is too important to be weakened by some differences," Mahathir told a press conference after opening MCA's 48th annual general assembly here.

To another question, Mahathir, who is also the Barisan Nasional (BN) chairman, said even though the MCA takeover of Nanyang Press Holdings Bhd had left some in the party dissatisfied, the party will strive to settle the problem.

"There are those who are still not happy with the



takeover but the matter is yet to be concluded. The leaders have given their assurance that Huaren (Holdings Bhd) will reduce its shares in Nanyang and there are many Chinese groups that want to buy them."

Asked on the brawl at the MCA Youth AGM on Friday where chairs were thrown, Mahathir said it is not unusual.

"Sometimes, things like this happen. It also happened in Umno where delegates threw chairs and before, in MIC as well."