

# PM: No justification for terrorism

KUALA LUMPUR: There is no justification for people to resort to terrorism to change things in the country because the system allows them to seek changes through the ballot box, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said.

He said that people who resorted to such action in the country had imagined they had reason to do so and believed their act was noble because they felt Malaysia

was not Islamic enough.

"But we have procedures here for them to convince the majority to support their cause without having to resort to terror and violence.

"They are either naive or stupid to imagine they can impose their beliefs on the majority," he said in response to a question during a dialogue at the conference on terrorism yesterday.

Responding to another question, he said that a prob-

lem faced by Muslims in the fight against terrorism was the fact that any *ulama* could issue a *fatwa* (religious edict) calling for *jihad* (holy war).

Unlike Christianity, he said that Islam was not centralised and its structure was fragmented allowing anyone with influence to issue a *fatwa*.

He lamented that some Muslims believed that cooperating with leaders of other faiths to resolve problems was wrong.