

Student rep laments activities at **IIU** campus

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PUTRAJAYA: A student leader of the International Islamic University, apparently fed-up with the pro-opposition activities at the campus, appealed to Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad to look into the matter.

The student, who was recently elected to the university's student representative council, took the opportunity to approach Dr Mahathir and his wife Datin Seri Dr Siti Hasmah Ali as they were leaving a hall at the Sri Perdana Complex after hosting a *buka puasa* function for new student leaders from 18 universities.

The student, who declined to be named, briefed Dr Mahathir about the state of affairs that he said was going on at the IIU campus.

Among other things he said he told Dr Mahathir about the distribution of poison pen letters in campus by pro-opposition students implicating UMNO leaders.

"I have brought up the matter to the campus authority but until today, I have not received anything from them and neither was any action taken against the group," he added.

He said Dr Mahathir had advised him to "be patient" and to study hard while he was in university.

The student leader also said dur-

ing the recent student elections, the situation was tense and a scuffle broke out between rival student groups. There was also allegation of last minute changes to election rules to favour "opposition" candidates.

"There was a tense situation confronting the two opposing groups over poison pen letters. There was a scuffle with some shoving among them before the security guards were called in to restore order," he added.

In a related development, Universiti Utara Malaysia clarified yesterday that it did not sign a five-point declaration by 18 universities, which was given to Dr Mahathir on Wednesday night.

A newly-elected student leader, Shamsuhardi Basir, said this was because none of their representatives had been sworn into the students' representative council.

"However, we highly appreciate Dr Mahathir's leadership of the nation, race and religion and we are all behind him in this matter," he said.

He said he was also disappointed with the co-organiser Peninsular Malay Student Association for "tricking" the student leaders into signing the declaration although the function was earlier meant to be a *buka puasa* function with Dr Mahathir and a dialogue.