

# Swallow pride and resolve rift, Dr M tells MCA

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KUALA LUMPUR: Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad yesterday asked MCA leaders to "swallow their pride" and resolve their internal dispute in the interest of the Chinese community and Barisan Nasional.

Describing the feud as serious, the Prime Minister, who is also Barisan chairman, said

he had spoken to both sides and had asked them "not to be too hard" on each other.

"I think there is a need for people (MCA leaders) to swallow their pride a bit. Yes, they may have a reason for this difference of opinions but it is not doing MCA or the Chinese community any good.

"I have spoken to (Datuk) Ong Tee Keat (and) I have spoken to Datuk Seri Dr Ling

(Liong Sik) to ask them not to be too hard on each other," he said after opening the Permodalan Nasional Bhd service apartment, Darby Park! here last night.

Dr Mahathir said both sides had basically been unwilling to compromise.

He added people had to realise that "if you start something like trying to bring down any

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## 'BN can win by-election'

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leader, he is bound to fight."

"I hope to meet Tee Keat again," he said.

Asked if the MCA infighting might jeopardise Barisan's chances of retaining the Indera Kayangan seat in the coming by-election, Dr Mahathir said he believed Barisan could manage the matter.