

Be prepared to make sacrifices, BN told

Mahathir: Parties must be willing to protect common goals of coalition

All Barisan Nasional component parties must be willing to sacrifice certain interests so as to protect the common goals of the coalition, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad says.

Mahathir said that as the BN has created a unique spirit of cooperation among the races in the country, the power-sharing formula of the component parties must be preserved in facing any challenges.

"No one should champion their own personal interests at the expense of party unity.

"If we lose, we should be willing to withdraw gracefully as our disappointment is not as important as the party's success," he said in his speech at the People's Progressive Party's 48th general assembly.

Mahathir said although BN is multi-racial, it still functions as a unitary platform.

"We don't challenge one another. Although we do not get what we want, we cannot be disappointed and threaten the stability and unity of the party," he said.

Mahathir also said mutual respect must exist between the ruling party and the administration.

Although administrators may not agree with the policies of the ruling party, they should not allow it to influence the administrative machinery.

The prime minister said an effective and credible government will be formed when there is a unique and sensitive relationship between the ruling party and the highest administrative officials.

Mahathir also said Malaysia would be more peace-

ful without the problems created by the opposition parties.

"It is not that we don't

want any opposition. They are important in correcting the government when it becomes too confident or starts to go wrong.

"But the Opposition in Malaysia does not correct us, instead they only know how to slander and instil hatred towards the country's leaders and the ruling party," he said.

Mahathir also said that although the country has developed, there are attempts to destroy its economy through various news which have been spread.

"There were news of racial riots, (which have a) negative effect on tourists and foreign investors with Malaysia being an Islamic country, the government will fall and many other baseless reports, including on assassination attempt on me."

Mahathir also reminded the PPP of its huge responsibility of collectively protecting the well-being of the country and its people.