

# Wish list under study

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Dr M: Suqiu will be told to drop demands which can affect peace

By **Cik Embun Majid**  
embun@thesundaily.com

## Those who seek foreign help are traitors: Dr M

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neighbouring country where riots had broken out because the indigenous people had been left behind economically.

"Let no one restrict the government's efforts to help bumiputras and Malays ... now Suqiu acknowledges and accepts this matter," he said.

Mahathir said Suqiu also accepted the fact that the federal constitution guarantees the freedom of worship and recognises Islam as the offi-

cial religion of this country.

He also reiterated his stand that those who seek the help of foreign countries to pressure this country are traitors to the race.

"They are calling in the colonialists when we are opposing the colonialists. They are betrayers ... and traitors to the race. There is no place in this country for betrayers and traitors," Mahathir said.

On claims that the young are not very interested in joining Umno, Mahathir said efforts are being made to

reach out to them.

Earlier, at a get-together with leaders from the two Umno divisions, Mahathir said he initially wanted the meeting to be a closed-door affair.

However, this was difficult because non-members and members of the press were also present. His meeting with members of the Sik and Baling divisions is the second following his meeting yesterday with those from the Pokok Sena and Padang Terap divisions.

**SIK, Fri:** The government is studying the implications of the remaining demands of the Chinese Associations Election Appeals Committee (Suqiu).

Suqiu will be asked not to raise any of these demands if they could jeopardise the peace and well-being of the nation, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today.

"If there is anything that can affect the national peace and well-being, then discussions will be held so that they will not be raised again," he said.

Of its original 83 demands, Suqiu has set aside seven which touched on the special rights and privileges of the Malays and bumiputras.

Mahathir said this at a dialogue with members of the Sik and Baling Umno divisions at SMK Agama Sik here today.

Replying to a query from Sik division committee member Zulkifli Abdul Kadir, Mahathir said the special position of the Malays and bumiputras is enshrined in the federal constitution and cannot be questioned.

He said Suqiu had accepted this and will not raise it again.

Suqiu has also accepted the fact that the government provides aid to Malays and bumiputras so that they can match the achievements of other races.

"Moreover, the government's efforts can help safeguard national peace, unlike in a

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