

Keng Yaik grateful over assurance

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KUALA LUMPUR: Gerakan has expressed its gratitude to Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad for his confidence in the party and the assurance that the Chief Minister of Penang will continue to be from the party.

"This reflects the Barisan Nasional's power-sharing mechanism. As the party which is leading Penang. Gerakan will fully prepare itself to meet the coming general election," Gerakan president Datuk Seri

Dr Lim Kerne Yaik said.

He was commenting on Dr Mahathir's assurance following Penang's Tanjong division Umno Youth chief Raja Munir Shah Raja Mustafa's call at the party's Youth assembly on Wednesday that the state's Chief Minister should be from Umno in order to protect the interests of the Malays there.

Dr Lim also said that with less politicking among component parties, the Barisan coalition could work fast towards

collectively strengthening the election machinery.

"We will do our best and I have already directed the Penang people to work harder. Koh (Penang Chief Minister and Gerakan vice-president Tan Sri Koh Tsu Koon) has become very thin and this shows that he works hard," said Dr Lim jovially pointing to Koh who was next to him. He was speaking to reporters after chairing the party's central committee meeting yesterday.