

STAR 9.7.2003
**Dr M: Penalty
for those who
hide property**

ALOR STAR: Prospective Umno general election candidates who hide their property by placing them under the names of other people will be penalised if they are found out.

Party president Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad acknowledged members chosen to stand in the general election might take such measures.

"But if we find out later that the person had lied to us, we will take action," he said yesterday after visiting the site of a new Malaysian-Thai border crossing at Durian Burung, 65km from here.

He was commenting on a statement by Umno secretary-general Tan Sri Khalil Yaakob that every party member nominated as an election candidate needed to declare their property.

Dr Mahathir said it was a good measure, adding that no amendment to the party constitution was needed as it was an administrative matter.

He said the Umno supreme council would consider the proposal at its meeting.

Khalil had said the move aimed to prevent issues involving candidates being brought up in the election which could bring defeat for the party.