

Work together, Kedah Barisan members urged

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Dr M: Back all BN component parties

ALOR STAR: Kedah Barisan Nasional members must give full support to Barisan candidates regardless of the component party to which they belong.

Kedah election adviser Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad said it was important for Barisan members to work hard in the next general election so that all their candidates would win.

"If we do not support a Barisan candidate just because he is not from our party, the Barisan will lose in the contest.

"Likewise, we will face a similar problem if other Barisan coalition party members do not support our candidates standing in their areas.

"In the end, both Barisan candidates will not get any votes

and we will lose in the general election," he said when launching the Kedah Barisan election machinery here yesterday.

Also present were Tun Dr Siti Hasmah Mohd Ali, Kedah Menteri Besar and state Barisan chairman Datuk Seri Syed Razak Syed Zain and his wife, as well as other state Barisan leaders.

Dr Mahathir said that Kedah did not do well in the 1999 general election when Barisan lost seven parliamentary and 13 state seats to the Opposition.

"This year- we will have another general election and I hope we will wrest the seats that we lost."

Dr Mahathir said the Barisan election machinery should work to ensure a win, and since he was appointed as Kedah

Barisan adviser, it would be his utmost quest to ensure victory.

"I will give my advice to the election machinery before and during the campaign period.

"Believe me, my advice is good, and we will win if you listen to it," he quipped.

Dr Mahathir said that Barisan should not allow PAS leaders to continue making allegations like the recent claim that the rape and death of Nurul Huda Ghani was punishment from God because her father was an Umno member who rejected PAS' hudud laws.

"PAS is using this as an issue to gain support and their leaders have disregarded the feelings of the victim's family," he said, adding that people should not listen to such baseless allegations.