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Mahathir planting a tree while FRIM director-general Datuk Dr Abd Latif Mohmod (left) looks on in Kepong yesterday.

Dr M: Third party should arbitrate MIC problems

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KUALA LUMPUR: Former Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad suggested a third party to arbitrate in resolving the crisis that MIC is facing.

He said the party would not come to a resolution if they discussed only among themselves.

"There is always a problem in MIC. I think the problem should be fixed outside

of the party, if they discussed only among themselves, they will never come to an agreement."

"I know this because I faced the same problem during my time," Mahathir said after installing the plaque for the Forest Research Institute Malaysia (FRIM) as a national heritage in Kepong.

He said he is not a suitable candidate to become the middleman in resolving the MIC crisis as he is no longer a politician.

"I'm no longer a politician, I'm only a

critic," he said.

Asked by reporters to name the best candidate to resolve the crisis, Mahathir suggested Barisan Nasional chairman Datuk Seri Najib Abdul Razak.

"I think Prime Minister Najib should be the right candidate."

MIC president Datuk Seri G. Palanivel, who was supposed to be at the event as natural resources and environment minister, was represented by the ministry's secretary-general, Datuk Seri Zool Azha Yusof.