

'No truth in rumour about Dr M'

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SUNGAI PETANI, Tues. — Menteri Besar Datuk Paduka Haji Osman Aroff today quashed rumours that the Prime Minister, Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohammad, would contest in the Sungai Petani parliamentary constituency in the coming general election.

Datuk Paduka Haji Osman said such rumours had been rife of late and were purposely being spread to undermine the Prime Minister and weaken the Barisan Nasional.

"I am positive that the Prime Minister has no intention of contesting in the Sungai Petani parliamentary constituency. I firmly believe Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir will be contesting in his Kubang Pasu parliamentary constituency because the people there want him and support him," he said.

Datuk Paduka Haji Osman was addressing about 1,000 Barisan Nasional component party members and election officials from the Sungai Petani parliamentary constituency in the Dewan Kenangan Sultan Abdul Hamid this evening.

Also present were State Exco member Zakaria Said, Sungai Petani MP Hajah Wan Zainab Abu Bakar, Kedah Gerakan chairman Ong Chow Seong and Sungai Petani divisional MCA chairman Beh Heng Seong.

Datuk Paduka Haji Osman said certain opposition parties had been spreading these rumours to mislead the people into thinking that the Prime Minister was no longer needed by the people in Kubang Pasu.