

# PM: Razaleigh no match for Umno men

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KLANG, Sat. — Datuk Serif. Dr Mahathir Mohamad today predicted that Semangat 46 president Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah would lose against Umno candidates in any constituency should he decide to contest in the coming general election.

The Prime Minister said this was because Tengku Razaleigh had the support of only between 10,000 and 20,000 people.

Dr Mahathir said Tengku Razaleigh, with his party being small and weak, now wanted to cash in on the DAP and Pas to further his selfish political ambitions. "His affinity to both parties have undermined his own credibility."

"He is not sparing any efforts to fulfil his high ambitions of becoming a Prime Minister," Dr Mahathir told a large gathering of Barisan Nasional mem-

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bers and supporters at the Sekolah Menengah Tengku Idris Shah in Kapar, about 16km from here.

He said Semangat 46 claimed to have the spirit of Umno but the actions of its party leaders and their members were otherwise.

How could Semangat 46 co-operate with the DAP and Pas — each having different ideologies — one wanting a Malaysian Malaysia while the other at one time was trying to create an Islamic State in this country?

Dr Mahathir said Tengku Razaleigh was only making use of the DAP and Pas so that he could become Prime Minister.

The Prime Minister said he was confident that the people would not allow

themselves to be cheated by selfish leaders.

In a democracy, one has to accept victory or defeat in good stride.

He said the DAP and Pas were led by leaders who were extremists, unlike those in the Barisan Nasional who were moderate and liberal.

The presidents of several major BN component parties — the MCA, MIC and Gerakan — also spoke at the gathering. Dr Mahathir was besieged by party supporters and the people as the BN component party leaders made their way to the special bus transporting them back to the federal capital.

Earlier, at a Press conference after attending an hour-long closed door meeting with Selangor Barisan Nasional leaders

at the Klang Municipality Hall here, Dr Mahathir said he was not surprised that Pas had decided not to be a member of the consultative council on the Education Bill.

The Prime Minister said this reflected that Pas had surrendered its political struggle to the DAP, leading him to believe that Pas had abandoned its original principles in national politics.

Dr Mahathir said this also proved that Pas had either agreed or endorsed the policies of the DAP.

He said it appeared that Pas and the DAP were coming closer together in their political co-operation.

The consultative council will begin its first deliberation on Monday at a session to be chaired by Education Minister Anwar Ibrahim.

The DAP, Semangat 46, Partai Rakyat Malaysia and several Chinese educationists have also declined invitation to the council.

Dr Mahathir said that Pas, which has realised that it can no longer hold on to its objective of an Islamic State in this country, had moved in with the DAP to jointly challenge the Government.

Pas' surrender of its principles to the DAP had been the subject of widespread discussion at national political forums.

Dr Mahathir said current political developments, in and outside the BN, were some of the inputs he gave at today's meeting.

The Prime Minister added that the meeting gave him an opportunity to highlight the basis of the BN struggle and how this could be further used in the coming general election.