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# Razaleigh: Dr M had no hand in V-P appointment

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KOTA BARU, Mon. — Semangat 46 president Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah today denied that he was appointed Umno vice-president in 1972 due to Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

He said he was made the party's vice-president because the then Prime Minister Tun Abdul Razak Hussein wanted him to take over Tun Hussein Onn's place who was appointed the deputy president.

He added that Tun Razak held discussions with all Umno leaders and it was agreed that he (Tengku

Razaleigh) be appointed the vice-president.

"He had nothing to do with my appointment as the vice-president," Tengku Razaleigh told Semangat 46 supporters at a gathering at his Palm Manor residence here.

Dr Mahathir said on Saturday that he had helped Tengku Razaleigh to be appointed vice-president.

The Prime Minister said he had proposed Tengku Razaleigh to fill the post vacated by the late Tun Hussein Onn who was chosen to act as deputy president following the death of

Tun Dr Ismail Abdul Rahman.

Tengku Razaleigh made an announcement at the gathering that Pas, a component party of Angkatan Perpaduan Ummah, would get more seats than Semangat 46 in Kelantan to contest in the coming general election.

However, Tengku Razaleigh did not elaborate how many seats will be allocated to Pas.

Tengku Razaleigh apologised to the Kelantan people for bringing Barisan Nasional leaders in the past to Kelantan.

"I apologise to the people for my past mistake by bringing the present Barisan Nasional leaders to ask for support from the Kelantan people."

Tengku Razaleigh also apologised to Pas for his past behaviour criticising them while he was in Umno.

Among those present at the function were State Pas deputy commissioner Nik Abdullah Nik Arshad, Semangat 46 leaders Marina Yusoff, Hajah Rahmah Osman, Ibrahim Ali, Datuk Zainal Abidin Zin and Haji Rozali Isohak.