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# More will join Umno 'if not for State law'

SHAH ALAM, Tues. — Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today more Assemblymen in Kelantan will join Umno if the State Legislative Assembly had not introduced laws prohibiting them from switching parties.

"Unfortunately they are not free to do what they feel is right as democracy in Kelantan is very limited," he said when asked to comment on the decision by Machang Member of Parliament Ahmad Shukri Hassan to quit Semangat 46 and rejoin Umno together with 400 of his supporters.

In welcoming Encik Ahmad Shukri, Dr Mahathir, who is Umno president, urged other Semangat 46 members and members of other parties to also rejoin Umno.

Dr Mahathir had earlier launched the National Farmers, Breeders and Fishermen Day celebration at Bukit Cahaya Seri Alam Agriculture Park here.

Meanwhile, Deputy Prime Minister Encik Abdul Ghafar Baba said Encik Ahmad Shukri's return to Umno along with 400 supporters was expected.

He also said the move augured well for Barisan Nasional.