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PM'S STATEMENT A TIMELY REMINDER, SAYS NAJIB

KUALA LUMPUR, Aug 7 (Bernama) -- Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad's statement on the conspiracy theories on his relations with his deputy Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim is a strong reminder to Umno members to ignore any talk of a rift between the two, party vice-president Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak said today.

"With his statement yesterday, the Prime Minister has sent a strong signal that such talk should stop and we should concentrate on working to bring Malaysia to greater heights," said Najib, who is Education Minister.

"The Prime Minister does not like the politics of pitting the country's top leaders against one another," he told reporters after handing over the national flag to the Malaysian team for the Asean schools football tournament to be held here.

Najib said such theories of conspiracy could destabilise Umno and lead to rumours that put many people in difficult positions.

Dr Mahathir, who is Umno president, said he is confident that Anwar has the ability to succeed him and that the people should not continue to look for evidence to back their theories of conspiracy when there was none. --

BERNAMA

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