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Appointment of new DPM still being considered

PRIME Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said yesterday he was still considering whether to appoint a Deputy Prime Minister before next year's Umno elections.

He said initially he wanted Umno members to decide who the next Deputy Prime Minister should be by electing a deputy president at the party elections.

"But certain people including senior members of the party have expressed the view that it was too long a wait. Anything may happen to me, something they always seem to worry about. Therefore, (they feel) I should consider appointing a Deputy Prime Minister. I am still considering at the moment," he said when asked about the possibility of the appointment of a Deputy Prime Minister soon.

Dr Mahathir, who was in Hanoi to attend the Sixth Asean Summit which ended on Wednesday, was speaking at a Press conference before returning to Kuala Lumpur.

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