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PM dispels rumours of Sanusi's resignation

DATUK Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad yesterday dispelled rumours that Tan Sri Sanusi Junid has stepped down as Kedah Menteri Besar.

The Prime Minister said he was not aware of Sanusi resigning and only heard about it on television and read about the latter's denial in the newspapers.

Speaking to reporters after meeting Polish President Aleksander Kwasniewski in Kuala Lumpur yesterday, Dr Mahathir also denied any move to change the leadership in Perlis and other northern states of Peninsular Malaysia.

"I like to deny ... I don't know. Many speculations," he said when asked to comment on Sanusi's statement on Sunday, denying rumours on the Internet that he was resigning.

Asked to confirm whether the rumours arose from the appointment of former Kedah Menteri Besar Tan Sri Osman Aroff as his personal representative in Kubang Pasu last month, Dr Mahathir said Osman was appointed because of his experience.

"Previously I had no personal representative there. I am busy and need an experienced person. Osman has been there as the Umno division deputy chief since long ago but he was the Menteri Besar before ... now he is longer one and that's why I appointed him," he said.

Dr Mahathir also quashed talks that Osman, who is Jitra State Assemblyman, was leaning towards the opposition since relinquishing the Menteri Besar's post to Sanusi.

"He is an Umno die-hard. Even if boiled three times, he will still say he is Umno," he said.

The Prime Minister also said he regrets that in Malaysia, the Internet was used more for spreading lies and causing trouble.

"Previously I thought that the Internet would bring many benefits. But now it has become a favourite channel for spreading lies.

"While others used the Internet to increase their knowledge, Malaysians used it to destroy themselves and their country," he said.

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