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Lim Kit Siang decides to `soldier' on in politics

KUALA LUMPUR, Sun. - DAP national chairman Lim Kit Siang has decided to "soldier" on in politics, not planning to retire before Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

"I should be around to see who finally becomes the fifth Prime Minister of Malaysia, which could take place in 2003 or 2004," Lim said, adding that he expected Dr Mahathir to serve out his full term as Prime Minister.

Lim said he would go when he had outlived his political usefulness.

Saying he had spent two months in serious thought about his future, he had come to the conclusion that he had neither outlived his political usefulness nor outstayed his welcome in his party.

"I feel I still have a useful political role to play to mobilise public opinion and forces against such a bleak political scenario," he told a Press conference today.

Lim said he made up his mind after receiving public feedback on his political usefulness as well as a show of "solid support" from the DAP central executive committee and State committees.

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