

Speech to touch on Daim, too

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KUALA LUMPUR: The theme of Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad's presidential address at next week's Umno General Assembly will cover a wide range of issues, including internal party matters, the economy, social, education and internal security.

According to a source, the party president's opening speech would also touch on the resignation of Tun Daim Zainuddin from all government

and party posts.

Umno secretary-general Tan Sri Khalil Yaakob declined to give details of Dr Mahathir's presidential address.

But he said it would touch on all the current issues for debate by the delegates at the three-day meeting.

Speaking to reporters at a special briefing on the meeting, he said that besides the presidential address, three resolutions on the economy, education and religion would

be tabled and debated.

A total of 2,027 delegates are expected to attend the meeting, which will begin on Thursday.

The annual general assemblies for the Wanita and Youth wings, which will be opened by party deputy president Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi, will be held a day earlier.

A closed-door briefing session by the president on the focus of the meeting will be held on Tuesday.

It will be attended by supreme council members, Youth and Wanita exco members, members of the Puteri Umno national pro-tem committee, and division committee members.

Forty representatives from 16 foreign political parties have confirmed their attendance as observers.

They include leaders of the Myanmar State Peace and Development Council, Yemen General People's Party, Cambodia People's Party, Cuba

Communist Party, India's Bhartiya Janata Party, Afghanistan's Jamiate Islami Party and the Communist Party of China.

Fifteen overseas Umno Clubs will send their representatives to observe the meeting.

They are Umno Clubs from Britain and Eire, South Korea, Queensland, Cairo, Melbourne, Yogyakarta, Ireland, Medan, Chicago, Japan, Semarang, Pekan Baru, Jakarta, Surabaya and Bandung.