

Dr M: Fauzi's reason for quitting not logical

KUALA PILAH: Umno president Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said it was illogical for Beserah state assemblyman Datuk Fauzi Abdul Rahman to quit his seat on the grounds of being politically dissatisfied.

However, he said, there was not much that the party could do if Fauzi was determined to do so.

"Sometimes people want to quit their posts, what can we do," he said. Dr Mahathir was speaking to reporters after a closed-door meeting followed by a dialogue with Kuala Pilah Umno members here yesterday.

Fauzi, a former deputy min-

ister in the Prime Minister's Department, made the decision after lodging a police report against Umno secretary-general Tan Sri Khalil Yaakob on Thursday over matters when Khalil was Pahang menteri besar.

In his report, Fauzi made allegations on matters relating to state funds.

Khalil served as menteri besar for 13 years until he contested and won the Kuantan parliamentary seat in 1999.

Asked about Fauzi's allegation of money politics, Dr Mahathir said: "Why does he want to bring the matter up now." The party, he said, would study the contents of

the police report lodged by Fauzi before deciding on the next course of action.

Earlier, at a press conference after holding a close-door meeting with the Jempol and Jelebu Umno division committee members, Dr Mahathir said Khalil's position was not affected by Fauzi's action.

Khalil when asked to comment on the police report said: "I have not had the chance to meet Fauzi yet. When I see him, I will ask him about this matter."

He, however, refused to answer when asked if he would ask Fauzi to withdraw the report.