

PM: Bleak future for Keadilan as more opt out

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ALOR STAR: Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said Parti Keadilan Nasional has a bleak future as most of its members, including the prominent ones, had lost faith in the party.

Dr Mahathir said the party had no interest whatsoever in nation building and it had only one aim - justice for one person

"You cannot have a party that gets national support, expecting people to risk their future because of this issue," he told reporters before departing for Kuala Lumpur.

Dr Mahathir was here for the Sultan of Kedah's birthday awards presentation ceremony at Istana Anak Bukit yesterday.

When asked about the intentions of some Keadilan members to join Umno, Dr Mahathir said he wanted them to first know about Keadilan's foundation.

"They should know if the party existed because there was no justice or because there are people in the party who are experts at manipulating its members.

"So, in my opinion, more

Keadilan members will leave the party. Whether they join Umno or not, that is another matter. The important thing is they do not allow themselves to be used by other people," he said.

On Barisan Nasional's bigger majority in the Indera Kayangan by-election, Dr Mahathir said the results showed that Keadilan had not captivated public support nor could PAS use the people for its own purposes.

"See Keadilan's performance (in the 1999 general election). The one with the extra parliamentary seats was PAS.

"Keadilan is being used by PAS and PAS is very good at doing that," he said.

Dr Mahathir said the result in Perlis showed that the people realised they should not waste their votes because "they are angry about something without reason."

On Barisan winning the seat despite problems in MCA, Dr Mahathir said there were break-ups even in Umno in 1990 and in 1999, but Barisan still won the general election.