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# Dr M: DAP bankrupt of ideas

PETALING JAYA: The DAP's "No to 929" campaign drew flak from the Prime Minister, saying that the opposition party had no reason to exist anymore since it was bankrupt of ideas.

"It is a party that is no longer getting support from the people. What is it fighting for?" asked Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, referring to the "No to 911, No to 929, Yes to 1957" campaign launched by the DAP this month.

Furthermore, DAP chairman Lim Kit Siang kept talking about resigning but has not done so, he added.

The DAP campaign, in trying to persuade Malaysians to preserve the 1957 Constitution which stated that Malaysia was a secular country, also denounced Dr Mahathir's remarks on Sept 29 last year that Malaysia was an Islamic country.

Yesterday, Dr Mahathir reaffirmed that Malaysia was an Islamic nation, saying: "That is the truth. What is there for me to retract?"

"How has the DAP suffered because this is a Muslim country? Show me how we have suffered because this is a Muslim country. We have been very liberal," he said yesterday at the Royal Malaysian Air Force base upon his return to Malaysia after a working trip to Europe since June 5.

Asked whether DAP should, instead, direct its attacks towards PAS which was planning to introduce hudud laws in Terengganu, Dr Mahathir said:

"DAP is cohabitating with all kinds of people, strange bedfellows. If they can get one extra vote, they can sleep with anybody."

On the Umno general assembly next week, Dr Mahathir declined to indicate his message to the members.

"Just listen to the speech later. Otherwise, no one would come for the meeting," he said.

The speech, he said, would be "normal" with no surprises.

Asked whether the meeting would be the last one before the general election, he quipped:

"How do you know? Maybe you know something, which I don't. If that's the case, then there is no need for me to answer."