

17/09/2002

People of Kedah still need Dr Mahathir, says Syed Razak

KULIM, Mon. The people of Kedah, especially Kubang Pasu, still need Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad to be their wakil rakyat, Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Syed Razak Syed Zain said today.

He said while the Prime Minister had made known his intention not to contest in the next general election, the people of Kedah, especially in Kubang Pasu, still need his leadership.

"We respect Dr Mahathir's decision, but the people of Kedah, especially in Kubang Pasu, still need him.

"We hope the Prime Minister will reconsider his decision not to contest in the next general election," he told reporters after launching the Kulim HighTech Park smart card, khttp.com unity card, at the country's first high-technology park here.

Also present were Kulim Technology Park Corporation Bhd (KTPC) chief executive officer Ahmad Shukri Tajuddin, Schlumbergersema (Asia) president Lim Chin Leong and State Science, Technology and Environment Committee chairman Datuk Beh Heng Siong.

Syed Razak was asked to comment on Dr Mahathir's recent announcement that he would not contest in the next general election.

He said Kedah Umno respected Dr Mahathir's decision on the matter when he announced it during a visit to Alor Star last Friday.

He said as a respected leader, locally and abroad by both friends and foes, Dr Mahathir's leadership was still needed by Malaysians.

"As such, we hope Dr Mahathir will reconsider his decision not to contest the next general election.

"We understand and respect his decision but we hope he will seriously reconsider to continue leading the people in Kubang Pasu."

Asked how Kedah Umno would convey the people's request to Dr Mahathir to remain as the Kubang Pasu wakil rakyat, Syed Razak said he would discuss the matter with Dr Mahathir at the next monthly State Umno liaison committee meeting.