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Pas MP asks why his motion was rejected

THE tabling of a special motion opposing war in Iraq by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad was delayed for a while when Dr Syed Azman Syed Ahmad Nawawi (Pas-Kuala Terengganu) asked why his motion on the same subject was rejected by the Chair.

"I filed the motion on Thursday. I want an explanation why it was rejected, whereas the one moved by the Prime Minister was accepted."

Deputy Speaker Datuk Lim Si Cheng rejected Syed Azman's protest, saying that government motions were given preference.

"It is also more substantive and the motion can be debated by more MPs."

Tumpat MP Datuk Kamaruddin Jaffar stood up and appealed to the Chair to at least allow Syed Azman to read out his motion in the House.

"The content is similar in spirit to the one to be presented by the Prime Minister. I see no harm if the KT member be allowed to read it."

Lim did not buy the argument and invited Dr Mahathir to table the motion, who started his speech by expressing hope that the war in Iraq would not be politicised.