

Mukhriz against BN takeover through defections
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BN should not recapture states won by the opposition in the last general election through enticing their assemblymen to jump party.

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06International Trade and Industry Deputy Minister Mukhriz Mahathir said BN would ensure that any action taken before recapturing the opposition-held states was supported by the people.

"This is more respectable and the important thing is that we regain the support and confidence of the people.

"Getting the opposition assemblymen to cross over can be done but the public may not be supportive of the move," he told reporters in Penang today when asked to comment on the turmoil in Pakatan Rakyat and rumour circulating about an imminent dissolution of the Kedah state assembly.

"It has been mere speculation and there's nothing so far to confirm this," he added.

Losing confidence in PKR

Mukhriz, who is also Jerlun MP, said what was happening in the political scene now was that more opposition elected representatives, especially from PKR, were leaving the party as they had lost confidence in the leadership.

However, he said, BN would not be an opportunist by meeting the elected representatives involved and persuading them to join BN.

"We don't waste time on this, but what we're doing is working hard to convince the people to support us and addressing the weaknesses in BN, so that eventually the people will come back to us.

"I am confident that the support we lost in the last general election will return to us," he said.

Mukhriz had earlier opened a basic entrepreneurial programme organised by the economic bureau of the Tanjong Umno Youth.

- Bernama