

# Council to discuss former PM's position

PUTRAJAYA: The Umno supreme council meeting today will discuss the position of former prime minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad as adviser in government-linked companies and his party membership.

Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Datuk Seri Nazri Aziz said as those who had raised the proposition were members of the supreme council, the meeting would be the best platform to discuss this.

He said the matter was not discussed by the Cabinet as "all that needed to be said about the issue (Dr Mahathir) had been said".

Following Dr Mahathir's Criticism of Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi's administration, some quarters in Umno have questioned Dr Mahathir's position as adviser to government agencies such as Petronas, Proton and Langkawi Development Authority.

Leading the way was Kedah Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Mahdzir Khalid who said Dr Mahathir should resign from the position if he wished to continue criticising Abdullah openly.

Entrepreneur and Co-operatives Minister Datuk Seri Mohamed Khaled Nordin said it was high time for the party and the government to act against Dr Mahathir's criticisms sternly.

This should include reconsidering his advisory position in government agencies, he said.

Other Umno leaders who have called for Dr Mahathir to be stripped of his advisory posts include Kedah Umno Youth chief Mohd Rawi Abdul Hamid and Terengganu Umno Youth chief Mohd Sabri Alwi.