

Dr M's allegation is insulting, says Nazri

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PUTRAJAYA: Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad insulted and questioned the integrity of Kubang Pasu Umno members when he claimed they had accepted bribes in order not to elect him as a delegate to the party's general assembly.

Umno supreme council member Datuk Seri Nazri Aziz said he doubted the division members, who held their meeting last Saturday, would "stoop so

low as to accept a RM200 bribe just to ensure Dr Mahathir would not get elected."

He was confident that Kubang Pasu Umno division members had made their decision according to their own wishes and were not dictated to or pressured by others.

"This allegation is an insult to Kubang Pasu Umno members. I don't think it's right. If it is true, then make a report," he said

after closing a national level pre-university oratory contest organised by the Anti-Corruption Agency yesterday.

Nazri said Dr Mahathir should just accept the fact that he had lost in his bid to become a delegate.

Kubang Pasu Umno division chief Datuk Johari Baharom said members would not simply vote out Dr Mahathir for RM200.

"It's the first time I've heard about money being distributed," said Johari, who was asked to comment on Dr Mahathir's claim.

"We are not that 'cheap' to accept such an amount, if anything Dr Mahathir said is to be believed. However, I'm happy that Dr Mahathir has accepted his defeat.

"My division and I will always support him. He's been with it

for more than 30 years," said Johari.

Umno Youth chief Datuk Seri Hishammuddin Tun Hussein said Dr Mahathir should lodge a complaint with the party's disciplinary committee.

He also added that if money politics had actually taken place in the Kubang Pasu division, Dr Mahathir's son Mukhriz would not have been selected as a delegate.