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PM leaves it to Hisham

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'Mukhriz's letter goes against party position'

PUTRAJAYA: Umno president Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi has left it to Umno Youth to take action against Datuk Mukhriz Mahathir, an executive committee member of the movement, for asking the prime minister to step down.

"I am leaving it to Datuk Seri Hishammuddin (Tun Hussein, the Umno Youth chief) to take the appropriate action (against Mukhriz)," he told Bernama yesterday in an interview at Seri Perdana, his official residence.

He said this when asked to comment on a letter written by Mukhriz to him urging Abdullah to

take responsibility for Barisan Nasional's poor performance in the recent general election and step down as the prime minister.

"A day before he sent the letter to me, he issued a statement voicing support for me and that collective responsibility must be taken for what happened and several other statements that were seen as positive towards me.

"Suddenly he has made an about-turn ... just a day after that he sent the letter, not only to me but also to Datuk (Seri) Najib (Tun Razak) and the whole country.

"To me, this is not a good way or approach.

"This is one reaction from him as a member of Umno Youth, which has already taken a decision to support me and the party leadership.

"He had also earlier stated that Najib and I should be supported in leading the party and the Government.

"This (letter asking Abdullah to step down) contradicts the stand taken by Umno and the Umno Youth movement," said Abdullah.



Abdullah: 'To me, this is not a good way or approach'