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# 5,000 members to gather in support of PM

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**KUANTAN:** About 4,000 to 5,000 leaders and members of 14 Umno divisions in Pahang will gather at the Royal Malaysian Air Force base here today to declare their support for the leadership of Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak.

State Umno liaison committee deputy chairman Datuk Seri Mohd Sharkar Shamsudin said the "Solidarity Gathering" was to give encouragement to Najib as Umno president to be strong in facing whatever political challenges thrown at him.

"We want to show that Pahang Umno will stand strong behind Najib as the prime minister is from Pahang and is the member of parliament for Pekan.

"Regardless of the accusations and obstacles he faces, we hope Najib will not succumb to pressure, but will continue his agenda of fighting for the people.

"We consider the accusations thrown at him are by 'political desperados' who are disappointed that their personal ambitions had not been achieved," he told Bernama, here, yesterday.

Sharkar said the gathering would include a speech by Pahang Umno liaison committee chairman Datuk Seri Adnan Yaakob, followed by Najib's address.

After the gathering, the prime minister was scheduled to attend the handing-over of the Pahang State Malaysia People's Housing at the Makmur Sri Fajar Jaya scheme, in Jalan Kuantan, Gambang, here. Najib would also launch the



**Datuk Jamal Md Yunos** leading a group of protesters to submit a memorandum to former prime minister **Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad** to protest against the Mahathir-Kit Siang declaration in Putrajaya yesterday. Pic by Nursyahirah Marzuki

Pekan Green Technology Park at the R&R area, at Km26.8 of Gambang-Segamat Highway in Paloh Hinai, Pekan.

Later, Najib would have tea with the local community and visit the Paloh Hinai Mosque site in Taman Selasih, Pekan.

In **Putrajaya** yesterday, a group of non-governmental organisations submitted a memorandum to former premier Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad to protest against the Mahathir-Kit Siang declaration.

The group, calling itself the Malaysian NGOs Coalition, submitted the memorandum to Dr Ma-

hathir's assistant, Special Officer Muhamad Fazil Saad, after holding a protest in front of Dr Mahathir's office at Perdana Leadership Foundation (PLF) here.

Its chairman, Datuk Jamal Md Yunos, led about 1,000 protesters from several NGOs to denounce Dr Mahathir's involvement in the declaration, which was aimed at ousting the prime minister.

They also said the declaration was a bid to take over Putrajaya.

The protesters, who gathered under the scorching sun in front of the PLF building after Friday prayers, declared their full support for Najib

and his leadership.

Jamal said he wanted Dr Mahathir to take the memorandum seriously.

He said while many protesters had great admiration for the former prime minister, they were disappointed with Dr Mahathir's recent actions, which he said had created a division among the Malays.

The group was also disappointed with former deputy prime minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin and former Kedah menteri besar Datuk Seri Mukhriz Mahathir as well as other Umno leaders for jumping on the same bandwagon with the opposition to oust Najib, he said.