

Newspaper	THE SUN
Date	18 JULY 2016

# 'New party **not** a threat'

> BN leaders confident support for prime minister won't be affected

**MUAR:** The formation of a new political party in the country will not jeopardise the ruling Barisan Nasional (BN) because the struggles of BN and its component Umno are clear and have been accepted by the people.

Deputy Minister in the Prime Minister's Department, Datuk Razali Ibrahim, said BN's creation involved close cooperation among the component parties.

"We contest not to bring down a person but to bring inspiration so that the people trust

and are confident of BN and its struggle.

"But if we only stand (in the general election) for a certain purpose, then it will not last," Razali, who is also Muar MP, told reporters at the Muar Umno division Aidilfitri open house here on Saturday night.

On Thursday, former prime minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad announced that an opposition pact involving a new party, PKR, DAP and Parti Amanah Negara would be formed to challenge BN in the general election.

In **KUALA TERENGGANU**, state Umno Youth chief Mohd Johari Abu Bakar said the new party would not have a big impact on BN.

In a statement issued yesterday, he said the move would instead motivate the Youth wing

to work even harder.

In **PORT DICKSON**, Bernama reports MIC Federal Territories chief Datuk M. Saravanan as saying the party's support for Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Abdul Razak would not be affected by the new party.

Instead, it would only galvanise MIC members as they could now see more clearly the hypocrisy of the former PM.

"The Indian community does not agree with Dr Mahathir's stand," he told reporters after officiating the Manikam Village Head Futsal Tournament in Lukut.

In **BENTONG**, MCA president Datuk Seri Liow Tiong Lai said the move was a "desperate" act and an exercise in futility.

Liow, who is also Transport Minister, said Mahathir was motivated by personal interests and that the new opposition pact would go nowhere because there was no end to the squabbling among opposition parties, unlike in the ruling BN coalition.

The Sun - 18/7/2016