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'Dr M's campaign shows political disarray'

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SUNGAI BESAR: Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad's campaign for Parti Amanah Negara (PAN) in the Sungai Besar and Kuala Kangsar by-elections shows that the opposition is in political disarray.

Umno Supreme Council member Datuk Seri Ahmad Shabery Cheek said by working with Dr Mahathir, it appeared that the opposition had agreed with his stand and previous action against opposition leader Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim.

"It appears that they have accepted all the things he had said and done against opposition leaders, including Anwar," said Shabery at the district fishermen association's jetty here yesterday.

Vice-versa, Shabery said Dr Mahathir's pact with his new allies appeared as if he had substantiated all of their allegations hurled at him.



Umno Supreme Council member **Datuk Seri Ahmad Shabery Cheek** (third from right) at the **Sungai Besar fishermen association's jetty** yesterday. Pic by Roslin Mat Tahir

He said for example, PAN was led by Pas deputy president Mohamad Sabu, who was known for his harsh remarks against Dr Mahathir when the latter was prime minister.

"It appears the disarray in the opposition has worsened.

"They had seen the formation of PAN following an internal conflict (in Pas).

"PAN is now led by a former Pas deputy president, who used to not only issue strong criticism against Dr Mahathir, but had uttered all sorts of harsh remarks against him.

"So, now with Dr Mahathir openly campaigning for PAN, it is as if he agrees with all the accusations hurled against him (by Mat Sabu)."

In **Johor Baru**, Umno Supreme Council member Datuk Nur Jazlan Mohamed said the former premier's action in campaigning for the opposition in the two by-elections was a betrayal to all Umno members.

"We can't deny that the progress we are enjoying today is partly because of what Dr Mahathir did in his 22 years as prime minister.

"However, this betrayal has also become part of his legacy."