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Dr M's conflicting stance shows he is losing focus, says Rahman

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JOHOR BARU: Former prime minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad's conflicting stance on where his loyalties lie will make the people lose confidence in his credibility, said Barisan Nasional Strategic Communications director Datuk Abdul Rahman Dahlan.

He said Dr Mahathir's shifting loyalties would turn people off from supporting his newly registered Parti Pribumi Bersatu Malaysia (Parti Pribumi).

"Dr Mahathir's conflicting stance will only make the public lose confidence in him. This is apparent now with the latest developments.

"He has confused the country. What he has done now is not something extraordinary but shows he is losing focus," Rahman said, referring to a meeting on Monday between Dr Mahathir and his long-time nemesis, Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim, at the Kuala Lumpur High Court.

On Friday, Dr Mahathir had indicated that he was willing to work with anybody, including his enemies and opposition leaders to topple BN.

Rahman, who was speaking at the opening of the Gelang Patah Umno divisional delegates' meeting, said Umno members should be wary of the promises made by Parti Pribumi, chaired by Dr Mahathir.

He said Umno's contributions to the Malay community outweighed the promises made by Parti Pribumi.

"Parti Pribumi claims to be a party for the Malays, but it is not so. The promises made by

its leaders are empty promises, and are nothing compared with the contributions made by Umno since before independence," said Rahman, who is also Umno Supreme Council member and minister in the Prime Minister's Department. Present was Gelang Patah Umno division chief Mohammad Khairi A. Malik.

In **Batu Pahat**, Umno treasurer Datuk Seri Salleh Said Keruak said party members needed to adhere to seven principles for the party to survive the challenging political landscape.

He said the seven principles were upholding the party's struggles, unity, leadership, teamwork, adopting suitable and bold approaches, having wisdom, and implementing policies in line with the people's aspirations.

"These principles will uphold the party's struggles when faced with our competition in politics," said Salleh after opening the Sri Gading Umno divisional delegates' meeting at the Parit Raja community hall here yesterday.

Salleh, who is also communications and multimedia minister, said the country's peace and stability would be preserved if Umno and BN continued to have the support of the people.

He said to sustain its support base, Umno leaders and members needed to go to the ground to listen and talk to the grassroots.

Present was Sri Gading Umno division chief Datuk Ab Aziz Kaprawi, who is also deputy transport minister.



Datuk Abdul Rahman Dahlan