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trust Zahid

SHAH ALAM: Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak yesterday said Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad will not cause a split between him and his deputy, Datuk Seri Dr Ahmad Zahid Hamidi.

He said this was because Dr Mahathir failed to understand that he and Zahid were close and had gone through "thick and thin" since 1986.

"I had even fought for Zahid at his division when he was challenged by the then Bagan Datuk Umno division chief," Najib said, adding that as the then Umno Youth chief, he went to Bagan Datuk to deliver a speech to defend Zahid.

"Later, he won (that year's division election) with 11 votes. This prompted Zahid's division chief to complain to Tun Ghafar Baba, saying that it was because of the 'useless' Youth chief's speech.

"But I don't care, because Zahid is my brother in Umno," he said at the launch of Shah Alam Umno division delegates' meeting here yesterday. He said he would never believe rumours that Zahid had met Dr Mahathir to topple him.

He claimed that Dr Mahathir had tried to bring down Zahid with the Internal Security Act in the past.