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PREMIERSHIP

Pakatan Harapan's offer just to appease an old man, says Salleh

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KUALA LUMPUR: Pakatan Harapan's offer for Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad to become the next prime minister is not genuine and is merely to appease him.

Communications and Multimedia Minister Datuk Seri Salleh Said Keruak said there was "no way" that jailed opposition leader Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim and DAP supremo Lim Kit Siang would allow Dr Mahathir to take charge after what the former premier had done to them in the past.

"The offer for Dr Mahathir to become Pakatan Harapan's

prime minister is not genuine and merely to 'ambil hati' (appease) the old man to make him continue to attack Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak.

"Not to mention that it would be political suicide for Pakatan Harapan if they face the general election promising the voters a return to Mahathirism.

"Has Dr Mahathir forgotten in 2004 when the voters gave Barisan Nasional its best election result in history because they were so happy to see him go into retirement?"

Salleh, in a blog posting yes-

terday, also said 92-year-old Dr Mahathir must be "losing track of reality" if he believed that he would be appointed as prime minister once more.

Describing Dr Mahathir as "desperate", Salleh said the Pakatan Harapan chairman realised that against the backdrop of the Royal Commission of Inquiry on the Bank Negara Malaysia's foreign exchange loss-



Datuk Seri Salleh Said Keruak

es, his political legacy was never going to happen and his son, Datuk Seri Mukhriz Mahathir, had "no hope ever" of becoming the prime minister.

"So this is the best time to exploit Dr Mahathir's desperation and make him increase his attacks on Najib with the promise of the post of prime minister."

Salleh claimed that the hypocrisy demonstrated by

Pakatan Harapan was so visible that only those who were very ignorant would not notice.

Pakatan Harapan, he added, would say and do anything, no matter how ridiculous, just to fool voters into believing that it has a winning formula, hiding behind the fact that its leadership lineup was a "disaster waiting to happen".

"Pakatan Harapan thinks that the voters can be easily fooled, and by mere deception they can win the next general election, but the voters can see right through it."