

Newspaper	NEW STRAITS TIMES
Date	03 JUNE 2017

CONFUSION

# MUKHRIZ IN THE DARK OVER DAD'S PM BID

NOT- 3/6/2017 pg-9

Former Kedah MB says he has yet to speak to Dr Mahathir on the matter

**KUALA LUMPUR**

**P**ARTI Pribumi Bersatu Malaysia (PPBM) deputy president Datuk Seri Mukhriz Mahathir is in the dark over his father's plans to consider becoming the prime minister again.

When asked if former prime minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad was joking when he said he might consider taking over the top post again, Mukhriz posed the same question back to reporters.

"I don't know, you tell me," he said at the Kuala Lumpur High Court here yesterday.

The former Kedah menteri besar then blamed the media, saying that there were conflicting headlines regarding the matter.

"Looking at the media reports with conflicting headlines, I don't

know which one to believe. Some of you guys claimed he said 'no', some claimed he said 'maybe', and some claimed (he said) 'yes'.

"I'm confused," he said, adding that he had yet to speak to his father on the matter.

Mukhriz said this in relation to a Facebook live session on Thursday where Dr Mahathir said he might be forced to consider becoming prime minister again if Pakatan Harapan had such a plan for him in the upcoming 14th General Election (GE14).

Dr Mahathir was prime minister for 22 years from 1981 to 2003.

Pas Ulama wing information chief Datuk Dr Khairuddin Aman Razali said if Dr Mahathir took over the premiership yet again, Malaysia would only move backwards.

"He wanted his son (Mukhriz) before (to be the next prime minister) but then again, it's typical of politicians to want more pow-

er. We will move backwards if he becomes the prime minister again. Yes, he contributed a lot to our nation but this is no longer his era. Malaysia needs a person who is forward-thinking and young."

Pakatan Harapan's prime minister candidate fiasco started when PKR, during its national congress last month, unanimously named jailed opposition leader Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim as their prime minister designate, with party leaders holding placards bearing the words "Anwar as the 7th PM".

Dr Mahathir and PPBM president Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin refrained from doing so, which sparked speculation that they disagreed with their allies on the subject. Talks within the opposition coalition revealed that many leaders, such as former minister Datuk Zaid Ibrahim, wanted Dr Mahathir to be the seventh prime minister.



**Datuk Seri Mukhriz Mahathir**