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INVOKE POLLS

Dr M takes dig at Rafizi over approval ratings claim

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KUALA LUMPUR: Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad appears to have dismissed the results of a poll undertaken by former PKR vice-president Rafizi Ramli, who said the government's approval ratings have taken a dip six months after the administration changed hands.

Asked about the approval ratings, Dr Mahathir, sarcastically replied: "Rafizi definitely knew what would happen.

"In fact, his predictions with regard to the 14th General Election (GE14) were spot on," he said after officiating the Sultan Abdul Hamid Old Collegians Association alumni dinner ceremony here on Friday.

Dr Mahathir appeared to be taking a dig at the readings made by Rafizi's think-tank Invoke, which prior to GE14, had predicted that Pas would not win a single seat in the election. Invoke had reportedly predicted that Pas

would lose each parliamentary and state seat it aimed to contest, including in Kelantan.

Pas eventually won 18 parliamentary seats and 90 state seats in GE14.

On Wednesday, Rafizi said the Pakatan Harapan administration should be reviewed in light of waning public approval for the new government.

Rafizi had said this was reflective in the decline in Dr Mahathir's approval ratings, which stood at 53 per cent in a survey conducted earlier this month, a 19 per cent drop from a similar survey done some six months ago.

Dr Mahathir was also asked to comment on DAP stalwart Lim Kit Siang's statement that DAP was prepared to leave PH if the government abandoned its New Malaysia objectives.

"I do not know what he is talking about. I cannot comment on that."