

Council has no power to remove PM, says PAS

The star - 17/11/2020 p3.25

By MUGUNTAN VANAR
vmugu@thestar.com.my

BEAUFORT: The Pakatan Harapan presidential council has no power to remove a sitting prime minister unless he loses his majority in Parliament, says Datuk Takiyuddin Hassan.

The PAS secretary-general said they would support Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad finishing his term.

He said PAS was ready to support Dr Mahathir if a vote of no confidence was tabled in the coming March sitting amid political moves by some Pakatan MPs to pressure the Prime Minister to set a date for the transition to PKR president Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim.

Takiyuddin said the Constitution was clear that the Prime Minister would lose his position if he no longer commanded the majority from the MPs or if he resigned on his own.

"It is not for anyone to force the Prime

Minister to step down without a vote," he told reporters after attending the Muafakat Nasional Sabah for the Kimanis by-election campaign rally against the Sabah Temporary Pass on Wednesday night.

Takiyuddin added that the Pakatan council did not have the power to remove the Prime Minister as only MPs could do so.

"I want to suggest that if Pakatan really wants Dr Mahathir to go, they should table a motion of confidence and not a vote of no confidence this March.

"We will see how many MPs support Dr Mahathir and how many do not," he said.

On the Kimanis polls, he said PAS would support Barisan Nasional and let Umno take charge of campaigning as PAS does not have a division there.

Takiyuddin also brushed aside claims by some local political parties that PAS is an "extremist party", saying it is just a political statement.