

**Mahathir to Shahrir: You just wait and see**  
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**By FMT Reporters**

**Former premier brushes off Najib ally's statement that Dr M will have no impact on elections**

KAMPAR: Just wait and see, Dr Mahathir Mohamad said dismissively yesterday about a remark by Johor Bahru MP Shahrir Samad that the former premier was no longer relevant.

“(Shahrir) should read the comments made by the people, not from their own newspaper,” Dr Mahathir said to reporters here. “Their newspaper is directed to praise the Government, but not (the comments) from the internet. I didn’t tell these people what to say. He just needs to look at their comments.”

Shahrir was once a minister in Mahathir’s cabinet but was sacked in the midst of a constitutional crisis over royal powers in the 1988. He served for a short spell in Abdullah Ahmad Badawi’s cabinet in 2008, but has since become an ally of Najib Razak, the Umno president and prime minister in the face of Dr Mahathir’s relentless campaign this year to force Najib out of office.

Dr Mahathir has continually warned Umno that the party was doomed to failure and loss of power if Najib remained. But Shahrir said on Tuesday that Dr Mahathir would have little impact on the Barisan Nasional’s performance at the next general election. Previous elections had shown that Dr Mahathir’s views or support had not affected the party’s standing.

“When he was against Pak Lah (former prime minister Tun Abdullah Ahmad Badawi), he campaigned against us in 2008. In 2013, he campaigned for us. However, we still lost votes to a reduced margin,” said Shahrir at a news conference at Parliament, and questioned if Dr Mahathir remained relevant.

In response, Dr Mahathir told reporters here: “Ask him to wait and see”, Star Online reported.

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