

Mahathir: Pakatan can win without PAS' help

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The former prime minister bases this on the high turnout of Malays, including UMNO members at Pakatan Harapan functions.

PETALING JAYA: Parti Pribumi Bersatu Malaysia (PPBM) chairman Dr Mahathir Mohamad is confident that Pakatan Harapan (PH) can win the next general election (GE14) without PAS.

He based his confidence on the large Malay crowds drawn to PH events.

Speaking at a press conference at the party's headquarters today, Mahathir said at PH events, the Malay crowd could number between 12,000 and 15,000, even though according to TV3, only 200 Malays had attended these events.

The former prime minister added the positive reception also showed that Malays, especially UMNO members, supported PPBM and PH.

"But we see many Malays who come out (for the events) and we see that many of them are from UMNO.

"So it seems even UMNO members are interested in us. That's why we are confident we can win," said Mahathir.

Yesterday, at PAS' 63rd muktamar, PAS president Abdul Hadi Awang said PAS wouldn't be cooperating with PPBM, a party he described as "directionless".

"We have done an evaluation and found that PPBM is a party without direction. There's no direction and it's not even clear who their leader is."

Earlier today, the PAS muktamar passed a resolution for PAS to also terminate its political cooperation with PKR, citing PKR's failure to adhere to conditions of their political cooperation.

Previously, PPBM president Muhyiddin Yassin had voiced confidence that PPBM could be the "glue" between PAS and PH.

PAS has repeatedly said it wouldn't work with any party which had ties to its bitter rivals, DAP and Amanah, which are part of PH.

Before this, PPBM and PAS had been engaged in talks over possible cooperation and had even set up a joint technical committee on the matter.

Last night, Mahathir, on the sidelines of a ceramah in Kuala Lumpur, said he accepted PAS' decision to not work with PPBM.

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