

Najib: Dr Mahathir should reconsider move

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PETALING JAYA: Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad should reconsider his intention to offer himself as a delegate to the Umno general assembly in November because the general opinion is that he should not, Datuk Seri Najib Razak said.

However, the Deputy Prime Minister said Dr Mahathir had the right to contest as a delegate as was provided for in the party's constitution.

"For someone who has reached the top-most level of the party as president and prime minister and who has received the highest honour, to come down as a normal dele-

gate is something that can be interpreted in many ways.

"Many feel that it is not appropriate for Dr Mahathir to do this," Najib said after opening the Kelana Jaya Umno division delegates' meeting yesterday.

Asked how he felt, Najib said: "I follow the general feeling."

Asked whether he would offer Dr Mahathir any advice, Najib laughed, saying he did not want to come to the point of advising the former prime minister.

"It is enough when I say that it is his right to do so ...

"Whether it is appropriate or not is up to each one to interpret."

The party's vice-president, Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin, meanwhile, said too much time had been wasted replying to Dr Mahathir's allegations.

"I am not saying that replying to the allegations is a waste of time. It has to be done, but if these issues had not been raised, we could have utilised the time explaining the Ninth Malaysia Plan to members," he said after opening the Umno Batu division meeting.

On Dr Mahathir's decision to attend the Umno assembly as a delegate and speak, Muhyiddin said it was up to the Kedah liaison committee.



Najib agrees with the general opinion