

Fewer than 100 to be excluded

NST 15 MAR 1988

KUALA LUMPUR, Mon. — Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad today said that fewer than a hundred former Umno members would be excluded from the new party of which he is pro-tem president.

Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah will be one of those, he said when speaking to reporters at Parliament House. Dr Mahathir did not say who would take over the leadership of the Gua Musang division.

Last week Dr Mahathir said the new Umno pro-tem committee had compiled a list of those who would not be accepted, among whom were those involved in the court case that resulted in Umno being declared unlawful, those hampering efforts to set up the new party and those involved in the formation of Umno Malaysia.

Meanwhile, the Selangor Umno pro-tem liaison committee today received the first 5,000 sets of membership forms at its head office in Jalan Ipoh here.

The forms were received by the executive secretary of the former Umno Selangor, Encik Zainal Abidin Haji Sarkom, who is

also the political secretary to the Menteri Besar of Selangor.

Encik Zainal said the Selangor pro-tem committee had ordered 150,000 sets of forms.

"We expect to receive about half of the forms over the next few days," he added.

The Federal Territory pro-tem committee also received their membership forms today at Kompleks Kewangan. However, they were only supplied with 150 sets.

Utusan Printcorps have been given the job of printing some 1.4 million sets of the forms.

An Utusan spokesman said today: "We will initially issue about 50 per cent of the total order made by each of the State Umno pro-tem liaison committees. We are issuing the rest at later stages."

Each applicant will receive four copies of the membership forms, an application form to the Registrar of Societies allowing a person to hold posts in the party and an asset declaration form.

In MALACCA, the State pro-tem commit-

tee received some 70,000 forms. Pro-tem chief Datuk Seri Abdul Rahim Thamby Chik said that the State pro-tem liaison committee will work out an arrangement to facilitate the membership drive.

Previously, Umno Malacca had about 66,000 members but Datuk Seri Rahim was confident that this time around, more people would join the party.

"We asked for 70,000 forms because we anticipate that many would apply to join Umno," he said.

Datuk Seri Rahim submitted his application form to the central pro-tem committee today.

In KUANTAN, State pro-tem party chief Datuk Khalil Yaakob said 150,000 membership forms will be distributed to the various districts soon.

He said the first batch of 7,500 forms would be distributed in a day or two.

He added that special briefings would be held to explain to former Umno members the correct procedure on filling in the forms