

27 DEC 1996

FORMER S46 MEMBERS TOLD NOT TO BE INFLUENCED BY PAS TACTICS

MACHANG, Dec 27 (Bernama) -- Former members of Parti Melayu Semangat 46 (S46) have been told not to be taken in by PAS claims that the majority of their applications to join Umno have been rejected.

Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah, president of S46 before its dissolution, said Umno president Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad assured him at a meeting recently that their applications would be accepted.

Cases of applications being rejected were due to technical hitches but this did not mean they were barred from joining Umno, he told reporters after the presentation of dividends exceeding RM100,000 to Felcra settlers in Pulau Chondong here today.

PAS was trying to give the impression that former S46 members had no choice but to join PAS in an attempt to shore up support for the party in the Pulau Chondong state by-election, he said.

In his speech, Kelantan Umno deputy chief Datuk Annuar Musa said the state Umno would set up a task force to help former S46 members gain membership in Umno.

Barisan Nasional's Haji Yusof Hamzah is facing Zulkifli Mamat of PAS in the Jan 6 by-election which was caused by the death of Kapt (B) Mohd Noor Ahmad of the BN. -- BERNAMA

WM BD YBY