

15 OCT 1996

Razaleigh-Umno

I JOINED UMNO TO BE AN ORDINARY MEMBER- RAZALEIGH

KUALA LUMPUR, Oct 15 (Bernama) -- The Member of Parliament for Gua Musang, Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah, said today he returned to Umno to be an ordinary member and if others want to interpret the move differently it is up to them.

Commenting on the statement by former Deputy Prime Minister Tan Sri Musa Hitam that Razaleigh would one day be a leader in Umno, Razaleigh said this matter need not arise and neither should it be given any attention.

"I have time and again stated that I joined Umno as an ordinary member...not beyond that...as an ordinary worker," he told reporters at Parliament House.

Razaleigh said he did not expect such a statement to come from Musa whom he considered as a veteran politician.

Razaleigh handed over his application form to join Umno along with some 200,000 former Parti Melayu Semangt 46 (S46) members on Oct 8. Two days earlier, the seven-year-old party was dissolved in the interest of Malay unity.

Razaleigh said he had informed party president and Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad that he was ready to serve the party as an ordinary member.

On the call by the Sultan of Kelantan to the state government to work with KL, Razaleigh said this was only right as the state was part of the Federation.

-- BERNAMA

AZZ AAM