

28 MAY 1996  
Razaleigh-Umno  
KU LI TO GO ON NATIONWIDE TOUR

KUALA LUMPUR, May 28 (Bernama) -- Parti Melayu Semangat 46 President Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah will go on a nationwide tour, for two to three months, to get support from at least two third of the members to dissolve the party to enable them to return en bloc to Umno.

"If possible, I want all 400,000 S46 members to give their blessings for our return to Umno," he told reporters after opening a Global Cafe, equipped with computers allowing the patrons access to Internet.

Razaleigh was commenting on call by Deputy Umno President Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim to S46 members not to wait too long to return to Umno.

According to Razaleigh, he had so far visited two states including Kelantan to get views and support of the members to the move to return to Umno.

He said he did not have the opportunity yet to meet Umno President Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad to discuss further the returning of S46 members to Umno.

"I will not join Umno until every S46 member feels that the time has come to join Umno," he said.

He said he needed to seek the views of party members before making a decision.

"This is because we have many members and naturally there will be different views," he said.

However, he said, more than 50 per cent of the members so far were supportive of the party's desire to rejoin Umno for the sake of Malay unity.

On statement by Kelantan Menteri Besar Datuk Haji Nik Abdul Aziz Nik Mat that the quicker S46 members rejoining Umno, the better, Razaleigh claimed that Nik Aziz was a hot-tempered person, often saying things without thinking.

On Nik Aziz's claim that many S46 members had joined Pas, he said: "My congratulation to Kelantan Menteri Besar for his success in drawing S46 members to join Pas. Let's hope, there will not be too many Pas members leaving the party soon."

Razaleigh was also unhappy with Nik Aziz's statement that Deputy Menteri Besar Datuk Rozali Isohak, an S46 representative in the Kelantan government, had given too many statements making public "secrets" of the state government.

He said he did not think there was anything that should be classified as secret.

If the government wanted to be transparency, especially under Islamic rule, then it should reveal what it had done for the people, he added. --

BERNAMA

ZAB ABG