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RAZALEIGH HAS A PLACE IN UMNO, SAYS MAHATHIR

KUALA LUMPUR, Sept 8 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today that Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah has a place in Umno like everybody else in the party.

Dr Mahathir, who is Umno president, also said that the party had never stated that Tengku Razaleigh was a threat to anybody in Umno and Umno members could elect him for position in Umno if they wish.

"We have never said that he is a threat...this is why we are willing to accept him," he told reporters at the Ampang LRT station after taking a ride from the Sultan Ismail station here.

He was asked to comment on a press report today quoting the Parti Melayu Semangat 46 president as saying that he would not be a political threat to anyone in Umno when he rejoins the party after the Umno splinter party is dissolved.

Tengku Razaleigh had also said that he was joining Umno as an ordinary member, without position or money but was doing it for Malay unity.

Asked on the position of Tengku Razaleigh in Umno when he rejoins the party, Dr Mahathir said: "It is up to the Umno members...if they wish to elect him, they can do so." -- BERNAMA

AFY RM