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Razaleigh-Umno

RAZALEIGH SAYS HE'S WILLING TO CONSIDER KELANTAN UMNO HEAD POST

KOTA BAHARU, Nov 22 (Bernama) -- Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah, the former president of the dissolved Parti Melayu Semangat 46 who has rejoined Umno, said he is prepared to consider the post of Umno Kelantan chairman should it be offered to him and should his service be able to make a significant contribution to the party in the state.

The matter is for Umno president Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad to decide, Tengku Razaleigh told reporters at his residence here today.

He was asked to comment on speculations among Kelantan Umno members that he might be appointed to head the party in the state, a post which he had held before he broke with Umno to form S46 in the late 1980s.

The post is currently held by Dr Mahathir.

"Although I had no intention to seek any post when I returned to Umno, I am prepared to consider it (state Umno chief) if I can be of service in strengthening the party," he said.

With that intention in mind, he said he had rejected an offer to take over as head of the Umno Gua Musang division now led by Saufi Draman.

Saufi had issued a statement that he was prepared to step down from the post to make way for Razaleigh who also used to head the division and is currently the MP for the constituency.

Razaleigh said Saufi was elected to the post and it was not right for him to give it up for anyone.

"I met him yesterday during my tour of Gua Musang and I asked him to continue in the post and I would help him to strengthen the party in the constituency," he said.

Razaleigh said many similar offers of various posts had been made to former S46 leaders who have joined Umno, not only in Kelantan but also elsewhere, adding that he was thankful for their confidence. -- BERNAMA

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