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S46 MEMBERS APPREHENSIVE OF JOINING UMNO, SAYS RAZALEIGH

SINGAPORE, June 6 (Bernama) -- Parti Melayu Semangat 46 members are "apprehensive" of joining Umno, S46 party president Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah said.

"Our members do not want to be discriminated against," he said in an interview with Television Corporation of Singapore's News Five programme aired this evening.

Last month, Tengku Razaleigh announced his decision to rejoin Umno and said he would do so with his party members en bloc.

Since then, he and other party leaders have gone on a roadshow to explain to S46 members the reasons for his decision.

In the interview, Tengku Razaleigh said S46 might seek to become either a coalition partner of the Barisan Nasional or to support and cooperate with Umno without joining the party.

He said he had yet to meet Prime Minister and Umno president Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad since he announced his decision to rejoin Umno but at this stage he suggested that S46 could become a "coalition partner" of the BN.

Tengku Razaleigh added that he had told the Prime Minister at their last meeting that he "wanted no special treatment" if he rejoined Umno.

"I am at the Prime Minister's disposal. I do not want a position in the government or a position in the party," he said. -- BERNAMA

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