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Razaleigh-Mahathir

S46 PREPARED TO ACCEPT MAHATHIR LEADERSHIP

GUA MUSANG, May 24 (Bernama) -- Parti Melayu Semangat 46 (S46) is prepared to accept the leadership of Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir for the sake of Malay unity, its president Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah said today.

"If we have to sacrifice S46, then we will do so in the interest of Malay unity," he told a reception in conjunction with the 50th anniversary of Malay unity, initiated in 1946, here.

The formation of S46 was only a means of "reviving Umno" and uniting the Malays, said Tengku Razaleigh who is MP for Gua Musang.

His statement is regarded as yet another vital step in his efforts to bring his followers back to the Umno fold.

The Gua Musang S46 Youth and Wanita divisions had earlier pledged full support for Tengku Razaleigh in whatever action taken by him to strengthen the Malay unity.

Tengku Razaleigh said he would meet Dr Mahathir, the Umno president when he returns from his overseas tour, to continue with his talks on the Malay unity.

Although there had been a lot of criticisms against him on this issue, Tengku Razaleigh said he had nothing to apologise for.

Questioned by reporters if he would proceed to dissolve S46, Tengku Razaleigh replied that he would take whatever step necessary in this case.

"If the old Umno could be revived, then S46 should have been dissolved long ago," he said.

Since the first step in the cooperation was already made, S46 would not field its candidate for the Bukit Asahan state by-election in Melaka, as a show of support for Dr Mahathir's leadership, he added. -- BERNAMA

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