

9 JAN 1996

Mahathir-Youth

UMNO SUPREME COUNCIL TO DISCUSS YOUTH MOVEMENT DECISION

PORT KLANG, Jan 9 (Bernama) -- Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today there was no split in Umno Youth which decided to leave it to the Umno Supreme Council to decide on the proposal by the movement's acting head Datuk Nazri Abdul Aziz to hand back leadership to Tan Sri Abdul Rahim Tamby Chik.

The Prime Minister said he learned that Nazri proposed that the matter be submitted to the Supreme Council and the Youth agreed, he added.

"They were not split about their stand and agreed to leave it to the Supreme Council," he told reporters after attending a reception to mark the maiden call of "APL China," one of the largest ships belonging to American President Lines (APL), here.

He was asked to comment on the decision of the Umno Youth which held a special meeting yesterday and adopted two resolutions -- to leave the matter to the Supreme Council and for Nazri to continue heading the movement until the next party elections.

Dr Mahathir, who is Umno president, said the Supreme Council meeting on Jan 15 would discuss the matter.

Asked about the adjournment of the special sitting of the Dewan Rakyat yesterday because some Members of Parliament did not receive copies of two important bills to be debated, he said he did not know why that happened.

"I don't know why it happened but, sometimes, these things do happen," he said.

The special sitting, called to debate the National Higher Education Council Bill and Private Institutions of Higher Learning Bill, was adjourned when some members raised objection because not all of them had received the bills. -- BERNAMA