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Youth-assemblymen

UMNO YOUTH WANTS 22 ASSEMBLYMEN TO APOLOGISE FOR MEMO

KUALA LUMPUR, March 28 (Bernama) -- Umno Youth has asked the 22 Kedah Umno state assemblymen to publicly apologise to the party president for their memorandum expressing opposition to any move to replace the Kedah Menteri Besar.

"We urge them to make a public apology to Prime Minister and Umno President Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad for their rash action," Umno Youth chief Tan Sri Abdul Rahim Tamby Chik told reporters after chairing the movement's Political Bureau meeting here today.

Rahim said by their action the 22 assemblymen had questioned and challenged the party president's power to appoint Menteri Besar.

"By tradition, the prerogative to appoint Menteri Besar lies with the party president and this right and power cannot be challenged by anyone in whatever way," he said.

The one-and-a-half-hour meeting was also attended by Umno Youth vice-chief Datuk Nazri Aziz, secretary Haji Arzmi Hamid, treasurer Zahari Wahab and Datuk Mohd Al-Amin, Datuk Fatmi Salleh and Encik Ruslan Kassim.

Rahim said the assemblymen's preemptive move amounted to a show of disrespect to the Prime Minister.

"In this connection, Umno Youth strongly condemns the impudent action of the 22 Kedah state assemblymen and urge them to...return to the negotiation channel to resolve the issue," he said.

Rahim said Umno Youth would strongly support whatever decision made by the Prime Minister on the position of the Kedah Menteri Besar.

At the meeting, Umno Youth commended eight Umno Members of Parliament in Kedah for their decision to give the mandate to the Prime Minister to settle the issue. -- Bernama

ZAB YBY