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Razaleigh-Posts

EFFORTS TO UNIFY MALAYS SUCCEEDING, SAYS RAZALEIGH

KOTA BAHARU, Feb 21 (Bernama) -- Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah, the former president of Parti Melayu Semangat 46 (S46) which was dissolved, said the appointment of former S46 members to key posts in the Kelantan Umno and Barisan Nasional proved that efforts to unite Malays were succeeding.

He said the success would be greater when all former S46 members who applied to join Umno were fully absorbed into the party and given tasks to assist in political and community efforts.

"The action will erase any factional feeling among the Malays when they are re-united," he told reporters on arrival at the Sultan Ismail Petra Airport at Pangkalan Chepa today.

He was commenting on the appointment of former Kelantan S46 chief Datuk Rozali Isohak as deputy information chief of Kelantan Umno and Kelantan BN information officer effective on Jan 23.

Former Kelantan S46 Youth chief Rozali Yusof was appointed state BN assistant secretary.

Tengku Razaleigh said the positive developments now taking place would give confidence to former S46 members that their decision to join Umno was the right move.

"I am confident that with the latest developments no former S46 members who have joined Umno would run to other parties. Although the possibility exists, the number joining other parties would be negligible," he said.

On the process of absorption of former S46 members into Umno, he said it was going on smoothly.

He said more than 200,000 applications were submitted last year and about 100,000 new applications, including 35,000 from Kelantan, would be handed in as soon as possible.

"If the absorption process can be done quickly so much the better as I am told many former S46 members feel uneasy why it is taking such a long time to process their applications although Umno president (Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad) had accepted their entry into Umno," said Tengku Razaleigh. -- BERNAMA

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