

03 APR 1997

Umno-Sarawak

STOP SPECULATING ON UMNO'S ENTRY TO SARAWAK, SAYS ZAHID

KUCHING, April 3 (Bernama) -- Speculations on Umno's entry into Sarawak should be stopped to prevent problems, Umno Youth chief Datuk Zahid Hamidi said today.

He said the important thing now was the understanding between state leaders and Umno on the question of the party's entry into Sarawak.

"We do not dismiss the possibility of Umno coming to Sarawak but the timing has to be right," he said after calling on Chief Minister Tan Sri Abdul Taib Mahmud.

Zahid said certain people had accused the Umno Youth leadership as being the "instigator" over Umno's entry into the state.

He said Umno Youth took an open attitude on the matter as the move required time for implementation.

Zahid said Umno Youth plans to send a team to Sarawak to get a better understanding of the situation in the state.

He said Umno Youth would organise more activities with the youth movement in the state to establish closer rapport.

"We will also be having more study tours and adoption programmes between Umno branches and Parti Pesaka Bumiputera Bersatu here," he said.

He said the BN Youth would hold a meeting in Sarawak in July aimed at consolidating cooperation and to discuss current issues faced by the movement.

"Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad is expected to open the conference," he said. -- BERNAMA

RDY AZZ RM