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Isa: It boils down to question of loyalty

SEREMBAN, Wed. - Menteri Besar Tan Sri Mohamad Isa Abdul Samad today said the political problems caused by former Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim could be a lesson to all Umno members.

He said the circumstances following the sacking of Anwar revealed the extent of loyalty Umno members had for their party.

Anwar was sacked from the Government on Sept 2 for moral misconduct. He was also expelled from Umno a day later.

"The destruction of exhibition items at the Umno headquarters in Kuala Lumpur on Sunday showed that there was a fraction of members who were not loyal and did not love the party.

"If they were really loyal and appreciated the party, they would not have acted in a such manner," Mohamad Isa said after chairing the State Executive Council meeting at Wisma Negeri today.

He said Anwar and several others had clearly revealed that they did not love the party and had only been using Umno to attain personal gains.

Meanwhile, Mohamad Isa said the rakyat must be thankful to Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad for exposing the moral problems surrounding his former deputy.

According to him, Dr Mahathir had made the right decision in sacking Anwar, for failing to do so could have led to serious repercussions had Anwar become the next Prime Minister.

In Kota Kinabalu, Sabah Umno liaison committee head Datuk Osu Sukam said Umno members should adhere to decisions made by the party's leadership for the good of the party and the country.

Referring to Anwar's expulsion, Osu said it was the Umno culture for members to respect decisions made by the leadership.

Meanwhile, Parti Demokratik Sabah Youth leader Datuk Kalakau Untol, said youths, particularly leaders and members of all Youth Wings of Barisan Nasional component parties, should remain calm in the wake of the latest political developments in the country.

Kalakau, who is also a vice-chairman of the BN Youth movement, said members must avoid being emotional or getting carried away by going against the law.

In Malacca, State Umno Youth pledged undivided support for Dr Mahathir and Umno Youth deputy head Datuk Hishammuddin Hussein.

Its chief, Nazari Adzim, in reminding members to remain calm and patient, said the State committee had full faith and confidence in Hishammuddin to run the movement.

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