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Razaleigh

KEEP HELPING BUMI COMPANIES, SAYS RAZALEIGH

GUA MUSANG, March 27 (Bernama) -- Former finance minister Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah has urged the government to continue taking appropriate measures to help Bumiputera companies as it steers the country towards economic recovery.

At the same, he said, the government should increase investment in education to prepare the country's future leaders and meet greater needs of nation-building.

"The current problems of the Bumiputera companies are not caused by poor financial management or inefficient administration but because of the ringgit's depreciation," he said.

Razaleigh, who is the appointed Gua Musang Umno division chief, was speaking to reporters after opening the divisional delegates' meeting here today.

He is also Member of Parliament for Gua Musang and former president of the now-defunct Parti Semangat Melayu 46.

He said problematic Bumiputera companies would need government's assistance not for the sake of the individuals who owned them but more for the Malays whose livelihood depended on the companies.

On Umno, Tengku Razaleigh said he owed it to Prime Minister and party president Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad for the confidence and trust in him to lead the Gua Musang division.

Following Tengku Razaleigh's appointment to the post, the incumbent chief Mohamad Saufi Deraman became his deputy.

Tengku Razaleigh expressed confidence that Umno would wrest control of Kelantan from PAS in the next general election provided Umno members worked hard and put party interests first.-- BERNAMA

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