

25/08/1998

Party members told to focus on overcoming economic woes

GENTING HIGHLANDS, Mon. - Umno members should accord priority to helping the country overcome the economic problem and not indulge in too much politicking, party vice-president Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said today.

"The challenge now is to help the country overcome the economic problem," he said, adding that too much politicking would erode party unity.

Abdullah said this in response to reporters' questions on whether rampant politicking among Umno members in view of next year's party election would affect the party.

"It is during times like these that Umno members must remain united under one captain," he said.

Abdullah, who is also the Foreign Minister, was speaking at a Press conference after he delivered a keynote address at the Institute of Strategic and International Studies forum on "Reconciliation in Bosnia-Herzegovina" at the Awana Hotel.

He said Umno members must be reminded that party elections were still a long way to go.

"Many things can happen in the next two or three months, particularly to the country's economy. We must be prepared to face these challenges," he added.

Towards this end, he urged all members to be united and to support the leadership of party president Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad in overcoming the economic problem which started in July last year.

(END)