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Mohamed-Conspiracy

PLOT TO TOPPLE UMNO LEADERSHIP HAS LONG EXISTED, SAYS MOHAMED

PULAU PINANG, Oct 2 (Bernama) -- Former Umno secretary-general Datuk Seri Mohamed Rahmat said the plot to topple the Umno leadership has long existed but failed following the sacking of Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim.

He said the struggle for power in the party was nothing new and was known to party leaders and members.

The power struggle should be stopped if Umno wanted to be accepted and respected by the people, said Mohamed, who is Information Minister.

The jostle for power in Umno existed since 30 years ago and continued right into the era of the present party president Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, he told reporters after presenting excellent service awards to 28 Information Ministry staff here.

Mohamed said he did not need to reveal details of the plot since it had failed after Anwar's sacking.

"Party members and leaders should not be surprised and overreact to my exposure of the conspiracy and money politics. I call on them not to hide or pretended not to know about this," he said.

Mohamed, who is an Umno Supreme Council member, was responding to questions on his recent statement that there were Umno divisional leaders being paid allowances between RM5,000 and RM10,000 in order to bring down Dr Mahathir.

Mohamed said he would explain the issue to the supreme council if asked to do so since he preferred to use the proper channel in resolving the case.

"Therefore I don't think I should explain the conspiracy now since it has failed. This case should be closed and I call on those involved to repent and return to the party's struggle," he said.

Mohamed said he came across the conspiracy when he was the Umno secretary-general and it was in various forms.

Mohamed, who had claimed that 90 Umno divisions were involved in the plot, did not however reveal the names of leaders and the divisions involved.

He said this was only "act one, scene one" of the political drama which would be followed by few more scenes, and he would reveal the plot if there was a need.

"I know this exposure brings risks to me but I am willing to be destroyed for the love of the party," he said.

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