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Sharing with the people experience of party veterans

SUNGAI PETANI, Sun.- Umno members should avoid speculating why party veterans are being roped in to help the Government explain the economic problems to the people, party vice-president Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said today.

He said their wealth of experience could be shared with the people.

"Veterans are very influential, enjoying the people's respect. I feel it is timely for them to come forward to help the Government," he told reporters after giving a talk at a motivation camp organised by the Kepala Batas Umno Youth Division at Pantai Merdeka, about 20km from here.

Asked if the veterans' help could be misconstrued as an attempt at political comeback, Abdullah said:

"There is no such intention and there should also be no speculation why the veterans are offering help. We have to be serious in overcoming the economic problems and everyone should concentrate on the job at hand."

The fears that veterans might make a comeback were unfounded.

He was asked to comment on former Deputy Prime Minister Tun Ghafar Baba's statement yesterday that Umno veterans would be called to explain the economic problems to the people.

Ghafar had said they would include former Menteri Besar, Ministers and Members of Parliament.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad is expected to meet 200 of them next Saturday for a briefing.

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