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PM: NO-CONTEST ADVICE PURELY FOR PARTY'S SAKE

KUALA LUMPUR, Feb 7 (Bernama) -- Umno president Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today his advice to party members against contesting the divisional leadership posts was intended only for the Kelantan state.

"Yes, the advice is only for Kelantan but there is nothing wrong if the advice is accepted elsewhere," he told reporters here on his return from a whirlwind visit to Thailand, the Philipppines and Singapore.

The Prime Minister was commenting on the attitude of certain party members who still wanted to contest divisional leadership posts, despite his request against doing so to avoid a party split.

Dr Mahathir who is Kelantan Umno liaison chief said it was up to members to interpret his advice or directive, but it would be "pointless" for him to give the advice if rejected for reasons of self interest.

"If they priortise the party interest they will then have to accept my advice," he added.--BERNAMA

RAZ AR ABG