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Umno-Razaleigh

UMNO POLLS: RAZALEIGH NOT PLANNING TO CONTEST AS YET

KUALA LUMPUR, Dec 13 (Bernama) -- Former Umno vice president Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah said he has no plans as yet to contest any of the top party posts in next year's Umno General Assembly.

Tengku Razaleigh, also known as Ku Li, said it was too early for him to make any decisions.

"I have no plans, no decisions yet, it is too early and it is better for us to wait...just wait," he told reporters after Prime Minister and Umno president Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad delivered his address at a day-long party special general assembly to amend the Umno constitution here today.

Several quarters have speculated that Tengku Razaleigh, who is former president of the now-defunct Parti Melayu Semangat 46, may contest the vacant Umno deputy president's post following Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim's expulsion from the party last Sept 3.

Tengku Razaleigh declined further comment on the issue and instead chose to talk about Dr Mahathir's speech which, he said, party members should adopt in order to consolidate Umno.

"...all members, including those aspiring to be candidates and those not standing for election, should take note so as not to undermine and split the party," he said.

In his address Dr Mahathir said a leader should be chosen on the account of his character, abilities and other leadership attributes.

"This means rejecting those with inferiority complex, indisciplined, disloyal to the country and willing to be made use of by others," Tengku Razaleigh said.

"We have seen this happening in several countries.

"Independence is meaningless if what the nation has built is all destroyed," he added.

-- BERNAMA

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