

28 MAR 1998

UMNO DETERMINED TO SAFEGUARD ITS IMAGE

SUNGAI PETANI, March 28 (Bernama) -- Umno will not hesitate to expel any of its members including leaders involved in activities which can damage its name, party vice-president Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said today.

Umno's record showed that it had removed leaders at high level of the party because of corruption and breaching party discipline, he said.

"There is proof of Umno acting firmly at all levels to safeguard its good image," he told reporters after opening the Merbok Umno Division delegates conference here.

He was commenting on the statement by the Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad that Umno would lose the general election if people who were not Umno members viewed the party in a poor light.

Dr Mahathir, who is Umno President, had said there were already people who were looking at Umno in a negative light because of the jostling for posts through corrupt practices.

Abdullah, who is Foreign Minister, said immoral activities, money politics and internal squabbles would damage the party's image and cause others to view the party in a negative way. -- BERNAMA

MZM AAM