

20 SEP 1998

Isa-Umno

UNDERSTAND ISSUES CLEARLY, UMNO LEADERS TOLD

SEREMBAN, Sept 20 (Bernama) -- Negeri Sembilan Menteri Besar Tan Sri Mohamed Isa Abdul Samad has asked Umno leaders to understand clearly the current situation in the party before deciding whether to support Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad or his sacked deputy Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim.

He said Umno leaders were not "Yes Men" as claimed by Anwar but instead they had voiced their opinions at the Supreme Council meetings, the party's highest decision-making body.

He also said Anwar was silent when the council deliberated the cronyism and nepotism issues raised by Umno Youth chief Datuk Ahmad Zahid Hamidi but "we knew who the person behind this."

Now, Anwar himself admits that he asked Ahmad Zahid to raise the issue at the last Umno General Assembly, he told reporters after opening the Melaka Malay Women Teachers' Training College ex-teachers' association annual general meeting here today.

He said Dr Mahathir had gained more support from Umno members after he explained the cronyism and nepotism issues at length.

Those who harped on the issue to topple Dr Mahathir were disappointed, said Mohamed Isa, who is also Negeri Sembilan Umno Liaison chief.

He said the people would understand the issues better after they were exposed in court.

In his speech, he urged teachers to discharge their duties in tandem with the country's 21st century agenda and Vision 2020 to transform Malaysia into a developed nation.

-- BERNAMA

AS TS