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Committee formed to counter lies and slander

KUALA LUMPUR, Sun - Umno has formed a committee to counter lies and slander against the Government and Umno leaders, a member of the committee Datuk Sulaiman Mohamad said today.

He said the committee was headed by Datuk Ibrahim Ali and had "five to six" party supreme council members.

"The committee was formed last week and I am one of the members," Sulaiman said after attending a reception organised by the Malaysian Cat Club at a hotel.

Sulaiman, who is Deputy Information Minister, said that on the supreme council's directive, Umno divisions had been told to identify those propagating lies and slander for action to be taken against them.

"Now there are slanderous elements and those who encourage killing the Prime Minister," he said, adding that Malaysia was not a violent society and such actions were not part of Malaysian culture.

At a Press conference on March 18 after the party's monthly supreme council meeting, Umno president and Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said lies and slander against the Government and Umno leaders had intensified in recent months and added that the party was looking at ways to address the problem.

He said the lies and slander had also taken an added dimension with the wide circulation of audio tapes containing speeches by unnamed speakers who instigate Muslims in the country to resort to violence, including assassinating the Prime Minister.

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