

15 JAN 1999

Youth-HAK

HAK: UMNO YOUTH NOW KNOWS WHO THEIR CHALLENGERS ARE

KUALA LUMPUR, Jan 15 (Bernama) -- Umno Youth said today the formation of a new political party known as "Himpunan Angkatan Keadilan" (HAK) would allow the movement to know who they would be dealing with.

The movement's acting chief, Datuk Hishammuddin Tun Hussein said the people behind HAK had been using non-governmental organisation and it was difficult for Umno Youth to identify them.

"We are not worried with the formation of HAK. As a matter of fact, it's a good thing since now we can face each other in the open," he told reporters after receiving contributions to help the Indonesian people, here.

Among those who initiated the formation of HAK is Hanafiah Man, former special assistant to former Umno Youth chief Datuk Ahmad Zahid Hamidi. The party is reportedly awaiting approval of the Registrar of Societies.

Hishammuddin said Umno Youth members who joined HAK would not be re-accepted into the movement.

On Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad's statement that the Barisan Nasional (BN) could re-capture Kelantan if all party members were united, Hishammuddin said the Umno Youth was following situation and developments in Kelantan.

But, he said the movement's priority was to help the BN in the Sabah election.

"I will mobilise the BN Youth in Sabah to focus attention on the state election," he said.

--BERNAMA

ARA ABG