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Najib-Slander

SLANDER AIMED AT SOWING DEEP HATRED TOWARDS COUNTRY'S LEADERS- NAJIB

KUANTAN, March 20 (Bernama) -- The slander hurled at government leaders lately is an attempt to sow deep hatred towards the country's leaders, Education Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak said today.

Such slander to create extreme feelings among the people was no longer a question of politics but a threat to national security, Najib who is also Umno Vice President said.

The people should reject such slander and instead defend the government and the country's leadership, he said after handing over the International Organisation for Standardization (ISO) 9002 Certificate to the Institut Kemajuan Iktisas Pahang (IKIP) here.

"I am convinced that the majority of Malaysians will not accept any form of extreme culture and will be with the Prime Minister and the government in fighting this threat to national security," he said.

Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad had after chairing the Umno Supreme Council meeting on Wednesday spoken about such slander and the call to Muslims to assassinate leaders.

"The most effective answer to this slander is for the people to give their solid support to the government which is facing the general election. With the people's support the government will have a renewed mandate and this will by itself counter any attempt to create tension," Najib said.

Pahang Menteri Besar Tan Sri Khalil Yaakob, who was present at the function, said just hearing speeches which contained such slander amounted to serious incitement and when tapes to this effect were distributed it became a national security issue.

He said appropriate action should be taken on the grounds of national security and the irresponsible people should be punished under the country's national security laws.

"If action is not taken, it is likely to spread and will threaten the leaders, society and Umno itself," he said.

-- BERNAMA

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