

05/01/2000

Call to heed supreme council's suggestion

ALOR STAR, Tues. - Newly appointed Kedah Umno liaison committee chairman Datuk Syed Razak Syed Zain wants all Umno divisions in the State to heed the Umno supreme council's advice not to promote contests for the top two party posts.

The Menteri Besar also expressed the hope that the 15 divisions would give undivided support to party president Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad and deputy president Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi to remain in their posts.

Syed Razak said while it was important that Dr Mahathir continue leading Umno, the deputy president post should not be contested because the deputy president would eventually take over the presidency.

On whether the State Umno would promote a leader to go for one of the three vice-president's posts, Syed Razak said the matter had not been decided yet.

Syed Razak was appointed Kedah's new liaison chief and a Supreme Council member at the Council's meeting yesterday. He took over the liaison chief's post from Tan Sri Sanusi Junid.

On the State Umno, Syed Razak said his immediate task was to streamline work and administration of all the divisions to suit current and future needs, especially in handling the younger generation and facing new challenges.

"We have moved into the new millennium and several areas like information technology have to be looked into and, where necessary, adjustments made," he said after presenting Hari Raya Puasa goodies to patients at the Alor Star General hospital.

Another important task he said would be measures that would ensure party leaders who had been sidelined or who lost in the last general election, continue serving the party effectively.

Syed Razak expressed hope that heads of departments in the State reduce red-tape and provide information to the press and public to portray transparency in the Government's administration.

The Menteri Besar also said certain senior Kedah Civil Service officers would act as members of the "think-tank" for the State.

He would also be meeting ulamak to improve mosques' administration and matters related to religious affairs.

(END)