

30 JUNE 2000

Abu Hassan-Umno

I ASKED TO BE EXCLUDED FROM UMNO SUPREME COUNCIL - ABU HASSAN

SHAH ALAM, June 30 (Bernama) -- Selangor Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Abu Hassan Omar said today he was not appointed as an Umno Supreme Council member at his own request.

He said he had informed Umno president Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad not to include him in the council but instead give the opportunity to new faces.

"I am confident that a combination of a new and old council members will strengthen the party," he said when contacted.

Abu Hassan said he was grateful to Dr Mahathir for maintaining him as the Selangor Umno chief.

On the appointment of party vice-president Tan Sri Muhammad Muhammad Taib as Selangor Umno deputy chief, he said it would enhance the Umno machinery in the state.

Abu Hassan said previously he was the deputy chief and Muhammad the chief but now it is the other way round.

Despite this, he believes Muhammad too will cooperate with him

Abu Hassan took over from Muhammad as the Menteri Besar when the latter resigned.

-- BERNAMA

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