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Razaleigh-Contest

KU LI REAFFIRMS "NO CONTEST" STAND

KOTA BAHARU, Feb 17 (Bernama) -- Kelantan Umno liaison chief Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah tonight reiterated his stand not to contest for the Umno president and deputy president's posts in the party elections in May.

He said he had never intended to contest for the posts but certain groups had purposely made assumptions that he would go for one of the two positions.

"I say no, they say yes...how else can I respond," he told reporters on arrival at the Sultan Ismail Petra Airport in Pengkalan Chepa after attending the Umno supreme council meeting in Kuala Lumpur.

After the meeting, Prime Minister and Umno president Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said he believed Tengku Razaleigh would stick by his statement not to contest for the two top posts.

Dr Mahathir said the supreme council welcomed Tengku Razaleigh's statement considered to be in line with his position as a member of the council which had issued a no-contest advice for the two posts after its meeting on Jan 3.

Tengku Razaleigh said: "I think everyone is aware of the supreme council's decision. I've also made known my intention (not to contest) to all."

However, he would monitor the support from the divisions.

He said the divisions must take heed of the supreme council's advice.

"Maybe, I'm no longer needed anymore. Probably, that's why there is no support but if members have plans (to nominate), I'll see first," he said.

The Utusan Malaysia reported today that Tengku Razaleigh had no plans to contest for the Umno presidency and deputy presidency in the party polls.

-- BERNAMA

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