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'Mute syndrome not healthy for Umno's future'

ALOR STAR, Fri. - Kuala Kedah Umno division chief Datuk Zakaria Syed today warned that the mute syndrome prevalent in Umno was not good for the party in the long run.

Saying that it was time for Umno to take stock of the situation, he called for an end to the syndrome of "always nodding in agreement" and saying "Yes Sir, Yes Sir".

He urged the Youth and Wanita movements to be more vocal and the older generation in the party to be more receptive to the views of the young if the party was to regain support.

"It is time for Umno to set a new direction for itself and we must be brave to face realities.

"The youth should also have more courage to voice their opinions," he said.

He also told delegates that party president and Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad was a normal person and could be advised (ditegur).

Zakaria said this in his speech when officiating at the Kuala Kedah Umno Youth and Wanita meetings.

At the meeting, the Umno Youth delegates unanimously nominated Datuk Hishammuddin Hussein for the Youth chief post and Datuk Abdul Aziz Sheikh Fadzir for deputy.

The Wanita delegates unanimously nominated Datuk Seri Rafidah Aziz for the chief's post and Datuk Shahrizat Abdul Jalil for deputy.

In Kuala Nerang, the Padang Terap Umno Youth delegates also unanimously nominated Hishamuddin and Abdul Aziz for the top two posts.

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