

23 JUN 2001

Umno-Windup (Vice President)

EFFORTS TO INCREASE UMNO MEMBERSHIP INTENSIFIED

KUALA LUMPUR, June 23 (Bernama) -- Umno will continue efforts to increase its membership throughout the country in preparation for the coming general election.

Party vice-president Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak said the recruitment campaign would be carried out on a large scale by setting certain targets for each division.

As a demonstration of the party's commitment, the Umno divisions would be invited in the symbolic handing over of the application forms of new members to party president Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, he said when winding up the debate at the 55th Umno general assembly at the Putra World Trade Centre, here today.

Najib, who is also chairman of the Umno Membership and Voter Registration Committee, said every division would be asked to register every member as a voter.

The voter registration exercise by the Election Commission (EC) next year might be the last exercise before the next general election, he said.

"Let's welcome the (member recruitment) programme with vigour and treat it as the basis for victory in the coming general election," he said.

Another vice-president, Tan Sri Muhammad Muhamad Taib said Umno would disintegrate and the race would suffer if the party was not looked after.

"In the past, the Malays used to participate in the Melaka empire but when the Malays quarrelled among themselves, they lost everything," he added.

-- BERNAMA

RZS AZZ LAT AO