

24/06/2001

Membership drive to prepare for polls

IN bracing itself for the coming general election, Umno will embark on a nationwide membership drive where all the divisions will be required to complete their "membership assignment" within a stipulated time.

Its vice-president Datuk Seri Najib Abdul Razak said the campaign to increase the number of party members would be carried out on a large scale.

Replying to points raised by delegates at the Umno general assembly, Najib who is the Umno registration and membership bureau chief said all the divisions must be ready to carry out their "respective job" within a deadline to be fixed by the party.

To symbolise its seriousness in its preparations, divisional leaders would hand over the forms to party president Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad at a function to be held at a suitable time.

He said the campaigns were agreed upon after discussion with Dr Mahathir to gear up the party for the next general election.

Najib, who is also the Defence Minister and Pekan MP, added the divisions would be requested to register anyone interested to become members.

"As chief of the bureau, it is my hope that the party headquarters, State Umno liaison committees, the divisions, the Youth and Wanita movements and Puteri Umno will extend their assistance in making the campaigns a success."

Najib also said those registered as members would have the chance to vote in the coming election in accordance with the election procedures.

He also said that he would go to Kuala Terengganu soon to launch the campaign.

The success of the party, he added, could not be measured by the number of members or their debating skills.

"The party's strength will only be recognised if we triumph in the coming election."

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