

24 JUN 2001

UMNO NEEDS AN EFFECTIVE INFORMATION BUREAU TO COUNTER OPPOSITION, SAYS  
RAIS

JELEBU, June 24 (Bernama) -- Umno needs to set up a corps comprising of effective speakers at the grassroots level to counter the slanders spread by the opposition, particularly PAS, said Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Datuk Dr Rais Yatim.

He said with an effective information machinery that could attract the attention of everyone at the district and kampung levels, it would be able to counter the ploys employed by the opposition.

"I also feel every member of the (Umno) supreme council should adopt an area or state that needs to be tackled so that the briefing sessions could be carried out effectively.

"I feel ministers too should play this role at the level of their respective ministries to counter the deviationist tactics of the opposition," he said when asked to comment on the winding-up speech of Umno president Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad at the party's general assembly yesterday.

In his speech, Dr Mahathir, who is also Prime Minister, was reported to have described PAS as a traitor to the Malays and Islamic country for opposing development and unity of the Muslims purely for political reasons.

Rais was met after presenting computers to branches in the Jelebu Umno division at the Felda Pasoh Tiga communitoty hall, near here today.

-- BERNAMA

APG AO