

# Umno declares jihad on rising social ills

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KUALA KLAWANG, Sat. — Umno has embarked on a holy war (*jihad*) against social ills such as incest and rape which are on the rise and involve mainly Malays, usually from rural areas.

Party vice-president Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin said the war would utilise wide-ranging programmes to safeguard the future of the community. For a start, Umno has initiated a programme which ropes in party leaders to give talks.

Muhyiddin said that counselling and guidance sessions would be provided under the programmes, more religious schools set up and motivational courses held.

He was speaking after opening the Jelebu Umno delegates' meeting at the district office hall here.

Also present was Jelebu Umno chief Datuk Seri Dr Rais Yatim, who is also Minister in the Prime Minister's Department.

Muhyiddin also said the silent majority are urged to "speak their minds" through non-governmental organisations and political bodies over their dissatisfaction with Pas.

He said this would ensure sup-

port for Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad in case he decided to take action against the party and its leaders.

"He (Dr Mahathir) has been in the Government for a long time, and has been observing Pas and its activities. The time has come to put a stop to its activities which can be detrimental to the stability of the country," he said.

Muhyiddin was responding to Dr Mahathir's statement that the Government was prepared to act against those who abuse Islam and create animosity among Muslims in the country.

However, Dr Mahathir said such action could only be taken if the people supported the move.

"He is worried and feels action should be taken against those who intend to disrupt harmony and peace in the country. With full support (from the people), only then can action be taken."

Pas has had its freedom but some of its leaders have gone overboard, Muhyiddin added. "If the Government does not act, then the Government will be blamed."