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Najib-Umno

THREE MOTIONS UP FOR DEBATE AT UMNO GENERAL ASSEMBLY

PEKAN, May 28 (Bernama) -- Three motions will be debated at the Umno general assembly from June 20-22, Umno vice-president Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak said today.

He said the motions were on the presidential address, education, and religion and social issues.

"We believe the Umno president (Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad) will touch on several important matters in his keynote address," he told reporters after opening the general meeting of the Nenasi Fishermen Association here.

Issues like command of English, Malaysia as an Islamic country and meritocracy were expected to be raised by delegates during the debate, said Najib, who heads the Committee on Motions.

He said the assembly would provide a platform for members to strengthen party unity at all levels.

"We will renew our determination to strengthen the party. We have been on the right track of political resurgence since the last general election, as evident from our victories in several by-elections, the last being Ketari," he said.

Asked on the meeting to be held between Dr Mahathir and Pope John Paul II in Vatican City next month, Najib said it was a good opportunity for the prime minister to give a true picture of Islam at a time when Muslims were facing various problems and frequently linked to terrorism.

"We view the prime minister's move to meet the Pope as appropriate; the willingness of a Muslim leader to meet the head of the Roman Catholic Church shows that Islam is not against inter-faith dialogues. It will give a good image to Islam," he said.

Dr Mahathir has said that he had agreed to accept an invitation from the Pope to visit Vatican City, and that the decision would be endorsed by the Cabinet.

-- BERNAMA

MS YBY