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SMS TO BRING UMNO MEMBERS CLOSER TO HEADQUARTERS

KUALA LUMPUR, Nov 28 (Bernama) -- Umno will become the first political party in the world to provide the Short Messaging Service (SMS) for its members when the service is launched by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad at the party headquarters here tomorrow.

Umno executive secretary Datuk Tengku Adnan Tengku Mansor said that through the "Bersamamu Umno Melalui SMS" service to be launched with the cooperation of Celcom, members could communicate with the party headquarters more easily and faster.

"Members can, among other things, access information on membership status, and names and addresses of Supreme Council and State Umno Liaison Committee members," he said when contacted today.

Tengku Adnan, who is Minister in the Prime Minister's Department, said 30,000 Umno members were expected to use the service in the initial stage.

Umno has three million members, almost 60 percent of whom use cellular phones.

Tengku Adnan said phase two of the service, expected to be launched early next year, would make available excerpts of speeches of Dr Mahathir and his deputy Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi.

It would also contain major news headlines, important announcements on the party and election results, he said.

After the launch, Dr Mahathir, who is also Umno president, will chair the Umno Supreme Council meeting, which will be followed by a breaking of fast at the Putra World Trade Centre.

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