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Umno-Institute

LEADERS ENDORSE CALL FOR INSTITUTE ON DR MAHATHIR'S THOUGHTS

KUALA LUMPUR, June 19 (Bernama) -- Kelantan Umno's call to the government to set up an "Institute of Dr Mahathir Mohamad's Thoughts" has been endorsed by party leaders.

Vice-president Tan Sri Muhammad Muhd Taib said the suggestion was most appropriate because Dr Mahathir was known for his wealth of thoughts, ideas and suggestions in his 22 years at the helm.

"We do not want his thoughts, suggestions and views on various aspects of politics, the economy, social and cultural fields and international relations to disappear without having a body to study and galvanise them," he told reporters on the sidelines of the 54th Umno General Assembly here today.

The institute was mooted by Kelantan Umno chief Datuk Mustapa Mohamed as a form of recognition for Dr Mahathir's contributions to the country.

Muhammad said efforts should be made to gather Dr Mahathir's thoughts and ideas for research and implementation.

"This institute can be realised if we have the will, attitude and discipline. If not the idea will just go to waste ... we need to work on it," he said.

Johor Menteri Besar Datuk Abdul Ghani Othman said Dr Mahathir's thoughts were extraordinary, encompassing various areas of management and national administration, politics, economy and international relations.

"His thoughts have had major impact not only on the country but also on the international front, like his ideas in tackling the 1997/1998 financial crisis.

"It has been proven that his action (in imposing capital controls) was right and has finally become a chapter in economic studies on facing financial crisis," he said.

-- BERNAMA

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