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Mahathir-Umno

DR MAHATHIR ADVISES UMNO MEMBERS NOT TO INDULGE IN MONEY POLITICS

LANGKAWI, June 17 (Bernama) -- Former Umno president Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad today advised party members who are interested in contesting in the divisional elections, starting next month, not to indulge in money politics or gangsterism.

The former prime minister said he hoped that the division elections would proceed smoothly.

"I hope that there's no money politics and from what I hear. there's also gangsterism. Whether it's true or not, I hope that there's no finger-pointing," he told a news conference after attending the Dialogue 2010 at the Langkawi Lagoon Resort, here.

The one-day dialogue organised by the Kedah government was attended by Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Syed Razak Syed Zain, corporate and government leaders, senior government officials and private sector representatives.

Asked about the intention of his son, Mukhriz, to contest the posts of Kubang Pasu Umno division Youth head and federal Umno Youth executive committee member, Dr Mahathir said it did not concern him.

"I don't know anything, it's not my business. When I was prime minister, I did not want my children to be involved in politics to safeguard my name. Now, it's his (Mukhriz's) problem," he said.

On the dialogue, he said it went well and all the participants pledged their cooperation and commitment to help Kedah achieve developed state status by 2010.

He said the dialogue agreed that all bureaucratic processes be itemised and fine-tuned before a decision or approval was made to enable applications to be processed within a short time.

He said that investors would not come to Kedah if decisions which could be speeded up were delayed.

He said that if an industry was found to have potential to develop and generate economic growth, the state government might reduce the cost or not

charge for the land at all.

Dr Mahathir the other aspects to be given attention were tourism, industrialisation, transportation and education.

-- BERNAMA

MAN KHY JK