

20/06/2003

Khalil: Umno gaining popularity, total membership now 3.38m

MORE people are joining Umno because of their confidence in the leadership. As of June 18, Umno's total membership is 3.38 million.

Umno secretary-general Tan Sri Khalil Yaakob said a total of 19,034 new Umno branches had been registered during the period.

"This shows that Umno is gaining popularity and has succeeded in attracting more people, especially the young."

Khalil said the party's membership drive would continue and the party would also register all its members as voters.

"We must go all out to encourage youngsters to join the party to ensure continuity, peace and stability."

Johor recorded the highest number of members at 432,723, followed by Sabah (419,022) and Selangor (383,452).

Speaking before the opening of the assembly by party president Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, Khalil reported that the Umno training bureau would conduct a series of training courses for members.

Khalil reminded supreme council members to monitor preparations for the coming general election at all levels and ensure that election operation rooms were activated.

He also said that the Umno on-line website had been surfed by 3.97 million and the surfers included foreigners who were keen to keep abreast with political development in the country.

Umno, under the leadership of Dr Mahathir, is in its element and has grown stronger by the day.

"Today, Umno is very strong indeed and we will work hard to face the general election.

"Umno members want to express their appreciation to Dr Mahathir for his vast contributions to the party as well as the country. His capable leadership in steering the country and making it well known nationally and internationally has attracted a considerable number of people to join the party."