

Contest for Umno No. 2 post is healthy: Embong

Negara Malaysia

Bahan asal dari Arkib

KUALA LUMPUR, Wed. — A contest for the deputy presidency of Umno, should Datuk Hussein Onn decline re-nomination for party presidency, would not constitute a crisis within the party.

Umno publicity chief, Datuk Haji Embong Yahya, who said this today added that should there be a contest for the number two post it would be a healthy competition and would not lead to chaos in the party.

He said there was still uncertainty about the contest as Datuk Hussein has not stepped down. The matter was merely the subject of speculation by local newspapers, he added.

Datuk Haji Embong said Datuk Hussein had not indicated to Umno he wanted to resign.

He said most Umno members still needed Datuk Hussein's leadership and not a single division had questioned his role as leader.

Datuk Haji Embong, who is also Deputy Information Minister, said Datuk Hussein could still continue to lead the nation although his health was not good.

There should be no problem for Datuk Hussein to continue as he has an able deputy in Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad and lieutenants in Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah, Datuk Musa Hitam and other Cabinet ministers.

Noting that former Prime Minister Tunku Abdul Rahman had handed some of his responsibilities to his deputy, Tun Abdul Razak, Datuk Haji Embong said there would be no problem if Datuk Hussein continued as leader and handed some of his functions to his deputy, Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir.