

Umno not going to Sarawak, says Najib

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SEPANGGAR: Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak has poured cold water on a purportedly fresh attempt by a certain group in Sarawak to bring Umno to the state.

"We will not recognise any attempt to establish Umno in Sarawak," said Najib, who is Umno deputy president.

It has been reported that several former leaders of the Parti Pe-saka Bumiputera Bersatu (PBB) and the defunct Parti Bansa Dayak Sarawak (PBDS) are behind the move to bring Umno to Sarawak.

Claiming that they have the backing of key Umno leaders in Kuala Lumpur, the group is said

to have already formed several protem divisional committees.

Umno flags have also been seen hoisted in several premises in Kuching and nearby towns and villages.

Talk about the possibility of Umno's entry to Sarawak began some eight years ago with former defence minister Datuk Abang

Abu Bakar Mustapha openly supporting such a move.

Speaking during his visit to the naval base here, Najib said Umno's decision not to expand into Sarawak remained.

"We are firm in our decision," he said, dismissing claims that some Umno leaders were behind the group.