

**Umno Needs To Be Frank, Bring New Ideas, Say Political Analysts**  
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KUALA LUMPUR, Nov 24 (Bernama) -- Umno must be frank and sincere in facing and solving internal problems other than bringing new ideas to decide its direction and getting the people's support, say political analysts.

Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM) History, Politics and Strategic Study Centre senior lecturer Abdul Ghapa Harun said Umno must carry out a self-evaluation on the situation whether at the central, state, division or branch levels.

"The problem is in terms of the quality of leadership and the commitment of members towards Umno's struggle. Some people notice the weak commitment of members at the lower levels in the party's struggle itself," he told Bernama.

"So, I feel every delegate must be sincere and frank on the existing problem. Without the feedback from the lower rank members, it is difficult for party problems to reach the central leaderships," he said.

Ex-Umno president and statesman Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad was quoted as saying in the 'Soal Jawab' programme over TV3 last night that members need to speak out if they think it was important for the good of the party and country.

However, Dr Mahathir said those making the criticism must be careful so that the matters raised were not used as issues by the opposition.

Universiti Teknologi Mara (UiTM) Dungun Campus political science lecturer Che Hamdan Mohamed Razali said during the coming assembly, Umno delegates must appear with new ideas and not just air problems merely to seek support in the coming general election.

He cited the organisation of the Social Media Convention launched by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak on Sunday as an example in getting the support of the young, most of whom would be voting in the next general election.

He said everyone in the party might want to be candidates but members needed to be told not to sabotage the candidates picked by the party and to support these candidates.

He said the delegates themselves must bring along a new transformation in the present context and not just back the transformations introduced by Najib.

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