

## **Zahid says he knows 'masterminds' behind 34 divisions urging Najib to step down**

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**By Muzliza Mustafa**

Umno vice-president Datuk Seri Ahmad Zahid Hamidi said the mass gathering planned by 34 Umno divisions to force party president Datuk Seri Najib Razak to step down was the work of a few "masterminds".

Without naming any, Zahid said he could "smell" them, in remarks on news reports that 34 Umno division leaders from five states were urging Najib, who is also the prime minister, to step down.

"I feel that there are masterminds who used the 34 divisions to carry this act. I am not accusing but as a vice-president, I can smell those interfering in this matter," he said after attending Malaysia-China high-level economic forum in Kuala Lumpur today.

He said the action of the 34 divisions would not affect Najib as the number did not represent 21,000 divisions nationwide.

"I am not trying to undermine their actions but we have to know that there's 21,000 Umno divisions in the country."

He said these masterminds should stop influencing other divisions and use "proper channels" to voice out their grouses instead.

"I hope they follow party regulations and laws. I have no intention to hurt anyone's feeling. Umno will live and will continue to be relevant. This has to be respected by all members and party leadership."

Local daily Sinar Harian reported on Saturday that 34 Umno division leaders from five states urged Najib to step down.

They also reportedly planned to hold a mass protest against the current leadership next month which they said was supported by 5,000 division leaders. – November 23, 2015.

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