

**UMNO : A CHRONOLOGY OF
POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS
(1991)**

VOLUME 4

ECONOMIC RESEARCH ASSOCIATES

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4/1/1991 (NST, 5/1/1991)

KUALA LUMPUR: A group calling itself Malaysian Peace Initiative handed a letter of peace signed by 106 Members of Parliament and professionals to the US Embassy today.

An eight-member team, led by University Malaya lecturer Dr Jomo Sundram, met the embassy's Deputy Chief of Mission, Mr Scott Butcher, for an hour.

The team was to have been led by its chairman, Encik Usman Awang, but he was taken ill.

Dr Jomo said the group has a lively discussion with Mr Butcher.

Meanwhile, Umno Youth has condemned the US for continuing to pressure Libya with trade sanctions and freezing of assets.

Secretary of the movement's international affairs bureau, Haji Mustapha Yaakub, said today the US moved was not humanitarian.

Its accusations that Libya supported international terrorism were merely a ploy to apply pressure on the Arab state, he said in a statement.

Umno Youth reiterated its support for Libya's effort to spearhead anti-Zionist and anti-imperialist activities, he said.

5/1/1991 (STAR, 6/1/1991)

MALACCA: Encik Abdul Ghafar Baba has urged the MCA to be patient when pressured by "extremists and chauvinists" in the Chinese community.

The Deputy Prime Minister said Umno was also constantly pressured by Malay extremists but had not given in to their demands because the party believed that understanding and co-operation among the various races was the only means of maintaining peace and stability in the country.

"No one can deny the positive role played by the MCA," Encik Ghafar said, adding that Umno was committed to the MCA and would continue to support the party "to the end."

"We will support it even if it left with 20 members," he said.

Encik Ghafar said although many Chinese had been taken in by the DAP, they would eventually know which party was the better alternative.

"The people will rally around MCA in the end when they find out that the DAP can only make high and mighty promises but cannot deliver anything," he said at a Batu Berendam MCA dinner here last night.

6/1/1991 (STAR, 7/1/1991)

KANGAR: Perlis Menteri Besar Dr Abdul Hamid Pawanteh was reappointed by Prime Minister as the state Barisan Nasional chairman from Jan 1.

Kangar Umno division chief Haji Azmi Khalid, state MCA chairman Lee Kim Cheng and state Gerakan chairman Heng Teik Meng were appointed vice-chairmen.

The new state Barisan secretary, Syed Hassan Syed Mohamad, said today a vice-chairman representing the MIC would be appointed later.

9/1/1991 (STAR, 10/1/1991)

KUALA LUMPUR: A special committee has been formed to resolve the strained relationship between the palace and Umno in Pahang.

It was formed at a meeting of the Jemaah Pangkuan di-Raja on Monday night.

It is understood that the committee, headed by Tunku Ariff Bendahara Tunku Abdullah, who is a brother of the Sultans, will hold talks with Pahang Umno leaders soon.

Tunku Abdullah, when contacted today, declined to confirm the setting up of the committee.

He requested that the matter be referred to the secretary of the Jemaah Pangkuan Diraja, Encik Abdul Aziz Mohd Yusof.

However, Encik Abdul Aziz could be reached for comment.

Last night, the Tunku Mahkota of Pahang also declined to comment the meeting.

10/1/1991 (NST. 11/1/1991)

ALOR STAR: The crisis between Pas and Semangat 46 in Kelantan is proof that the latter cannot accept Pas ideologies in the administration of the State, Kedah Menteri Besar Dato' Seri Haji Osman Aroff said today.

"The current strained relations between Semangat 46 and Pas is expected because Semangat 46 leaders are former Umno members. Their struggles are identicals to Umno," he said when commenting on the rift between Semangat 46 and Pas in Kelantan.

"Semangat 46, especially its leaders, can never agree to Pas ideologies in the administration of the State."

Dato' Seri Haji Osman said he had expected the relationship between the two opposition parties to break even before last year's general election.

"From their election campaign, we could assess that their ties would not last long," he said.

"It is a matter of time now before Semangat 46 and Pas in Kelantan will decide to go separate ways. I will not be surprised if Semangat 46 pulls out of the Kelantan Government to oppose the Pas Government."

Pas and Semangat 46 are now at loggerheads in Kelantan with Semangat 46 accusing Pas exploiting the various posts in the State Government.

Unhappy Semangat 46 leaders and members have threatened to pull out of the coalition with Pas if the matter is not rectified.

10/1/1991 (NST, 11/1/1991)

KOTA BARU: Semangat 46 members in Kelantan appear to be divided over opposing statements made by their leaders on the party's relationship with the Pas-led Government.

While many seem to support the idea that Semangat 46 crosses over to become an opposition party if the Pas Government fails to meet Semangat 46's demands, there are others who blame the present predicament on ex-Umno members in Semangat 46.

On party member felt that Semangat 46 should not become an opposition party because there was no need for such a group in the State.

"We are already the opposition in Parliament," he said.

"Members must be patient as the Government is still new and has hardly started any real work."

However, another party supporters said it would be better for Semangat 46 to become an opposition party in Kelantan. Otherwise, he said Pas would be free to do things as it liked in the Government.

"We needs an opposition in the State because they can check the Government from making mistakes."

He believed that there was a conflict of interest between Pas and Semangat 46 and that they did not see eye because one of the parties was not consulted before a decision was made.

A State Government officer said Pas should heed some of the demands made by Semangat 46 to show its appreciation for the party's support in helping it win in the last general election to form the State Government.

11/1/1991 (NST, 12/1/1991)

BANGI: The Umno Supreme Council is still studying the proposals on the Rulers and Constitution made at the recent general assembly, party deputy president Encik Ghafar Baba said today.

Encik Ghafar said this when speaking to reporters after opening a seminar on Islamic Economic Development at the University Kebangsaan Malaysia here.

The Umno general assembly had on Dec 2, the last day of the assembly, come up with two options on how to bring to the attention of the Rulers the outcome of the debate and resolution on the constitution monarchy.

One was for Prime Minister Dato' Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad or Encik Ghafar to have an audience with the Yang di-Pertuan Agong Sultan Azlan Shah to inform him of the general assembly's deliberations on the constitutional monarchy.

The other was to form a special committee to study the proposals made during the debate on the resolution on the Rulers and Constitution.

Asked whether the special committee had committee had completed its study on the proposals, Encik Ghafar refused to comment adding that the Press would be informed of any developments when it was time.

11/1/1991 (NST, 12/1/1991)

KOTA BARU: An outsider to lead Kelantan Umno? Tomorrow's meeting of the Umno supreme council in Kuala Lumpur may provide the answer.

Observers here speculated that Prime Minister and Umno president would make an important announcement of the future of Kelantan Umno after the meeting.

According to them, an "outsider" would lead Kelantan Umno to prevent misunderstanding and jealousy among existing State party leaders.

By outsider, the observers meant any one from the party ice presidents, Dato' Seri Anwar Ibrahim and Dato' Abdullah Badawi or the Deputy president Ghafar Baba.

After a severe beating by Angkatan Perpaduan Ummah (APU) in the general election last October in which Umno was voted out of power in Kelantan, the often-asked question was who is most qualified to lead Kelantan Umno.

Observers here said the choice would be between giving former Menteri Besar the mandate again to hold the reins and appointing a more dynamic new face to formulate a long-term strategy for Barisan Nasional's (BN) return to power in Kelantan?

They said leadership was left with task looking for a national-level "rescuer" to take over the heavy and vital task.

However some circles felt the Kelantan Umno should be led by a local.

They said the problems faced by the party in Kelantan were to complex and unique to be resolved by an "outsider".

Among local leaders speculated to be given the task are newly elected supreme council member, Haji Annuar Musa, Umno chief information

officer, Dato' Haji Hussien Ahmad and State liaison secretary, Haji Ahmad Shahibuddin Mohamad Nor.

Tan Sri Mohamad and former Defence Minister, Tengku Ahmad Rithauden, regarded as "senior" veteran in the State, had said they would make way and support any young local leader chosen by the party to lead Kelantan Umno.

However certain quarters felt Kelantan Umno need not to be "hasty" in choosing a local leader for the job to prevent disunity among several State Umno factions.

Although there was no dearth of leaders in Kelantan, having an outsider for the post could reduce "tension" and alienation" among some veteran and young leaders eyeing for the State party leadership, observers said.

If the party leadership decided to appoint one of the vice-presidents to lead Kelantan Umno, the candidate's knowledge of Islam should be comparable to that Pas' leaders, the main component in the ruling Angkatan government in Kelantan.

"He must be sensitive, respected by all State Umno leaders and members alike and should be acceptable to the palace," the observers said.

The observers thought it unlikely that Encik Ghafar would be appointed the new Kelantan Umno liaison chief as he has other important tasks.

Dr Mahathir has appointed Encik Ghafar to explain to the Malay Rulers about the resolution on Constitutional Monarchy which was debated and passed at last year's Umno general assembly.

Encik Ghafar ad also be assigned to work a way of bringing Umno to Sabah, they added.

State Umno chief information officer, Haji Hassan Ismail, said generally Umno members in Kelantan would accept anyone appointed by the party president to lead the State Umno.

As party president he would certainly know the ability and capability of the candidate, Haji Hassan said.

On Jan 6, the Kelantan Umno liaison committee had a four-hour meeting chaired by Tan Sri Mohamed aimed at strengthening party machinery to face future challenges. - Bernama

12/1/1991 (STAR, 13/1/1991)

KUALA LUMPUR: The Federal Government will not interfere with the Kelantan Government's plans to introduce Islamic laws in the state so long as it is not against the Federal Constitution, Dato' Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today.

The Prime Minister said there were areas where the Pas-led state government could exercise without contravening the Constitution.

"As an example, while the state government cannot revoke lottery operators," he said after chairing an Umno supreme council meeting.

"If it does not agree with riba' (system where interest is charged on loans), it has the power to close or not to licence such as institutions...also the sale of liquor, the question of aurat (covering of the body), football attire for men and (attire) for women, all these are within its jurisdiction," he added.

"Hukum Hudud (mandatory Islamic laws) is not restricted to punishments like chopping off hands or beheading. If it wishes to go to court to determine their areas of power, we will not stop it," he said.

Dr Mahathir was asked for his views on the Kelantan Government's proposal to amend the state constitution to implement Islamic laws in stages.

The state government had said that it was the right of Pas to go to court over the matter if it wanted.

"The only thing we will do in court is that we will explain the Constitution; what can be done and what cannot be done. It will be up to the judge to decide whether they can behead or chop off people's hands," he added.

On a report today that the Kelantan Umno may pick a new leader, Dr Mahathir said the party had not decided on it yet.

12/1/1991 (NST, 13/1/1991)

KUALA LUMPUR: The Government has no intention to monopolise decision making in matters relating to policies in economy, foreign affairs, trade and education, Deputy Prime Minister Ghafar Baba said today.

He said the government encouraged the publication of articles in the Press, books, magazines and journals, which debated current issues in a serious, objectives and open manner.

"Although the country's administration is under Umno and the Barisan Nasional, it is not our intention to adopt a monopolistic attitudes towards decision making on such matters," he said in his speech at a dinner in conjunction with the Ibnu Sina Award, organised by the Ibnu Sina Hostel University Malaya.

12/1/1991 (STAR, 13/1/1991)

KUALA LUMPUR: The Umno committee set up to study the relationship of the Rulers with the party has made several recommendations to the party leadership.

Party president Dato' Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today the the recommendations would be studied by a working committee.

He said the sub-committee would comprise himself, the deputy president, vice-presidents, Secretary-general and several others.

Dr Mahathir declined to reveal the recommendations made by the committee chaired by deputy president Abdul Ghafar Baba.

The committee was set up to study proposals made during the debate on the resolution on the Rulers and Constitution during the party general assembly in November.

Last month, Dr Mahathir said that he and Encik Ghafar might call on the Rulers.

Her had also said that the supreme council felt that certain quarters were still not clear on the resolution and the council had discussed how it could explain the resolution.

14/1/1991 (NST, 15/1/1991)

KUALA LUMPUR: The Kulim/Bandar Baru Umno division has adopted a unanimous decision to appeal to Finance Minister Dato' Paduka Daim Zainuddin to withhold his decision to resign until next general election.

Division secretary Haji Abdul Rahman Haji Ahmad said in a statement today that a telegram had been sent to Dato' Paduka Daim expressing the division's decision.

"The Prime Minister should ask Dato' Paduka Daim to continue as Finance Minister at least until the next general election," Haji Abdul Rahman added.

14/1/1991 (NST, 15/1/1991)

KUALA LUMPUR: Umno Youth has described a statement by Prime Minister Dato' Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad on Malaysia-Singapore relations regardless of which country benefited more as a result.

Umno Youth International Affairs secretary Haji Mustapha said the statement reflected the sincerity of the Prime Minister who wanted relations between Malaysia and Singapore to continue to be strong and be the "core" of Asean strength.

In welcoming the statement, Umno Youth reminded Singapore leader not to take the statement lightly. It said the republic should be sensitive to the feelings of Malaysia.- Bernama

15/1/1991 (STAR, 16/1/1991)

KUALA LUMPUR: Dato' Paduka Daim Zainuddin wants to step down as Umno treasurer as well as Finance Minister.

"If possible, I want to relinquish all posts except that as MP (for Merbok) because it is new for me," he said today.

He said he would discuss this with Prime Minister and Umno president before submitting the letter.

He was speaking to newsmen after launching the sixth meeting of the International Savings Banks Institute's advisory committee here.

Dato' Paduka Daim said he wanted to resign as Finance Minister and Umno treasurer because "I have been holding the posts for a long time."

5/1/1991 (NST, 16/1/1991)

KUALA LUMPUR: Umno Youth will embark on an aggressive membership drive through a nationwide information campaign, its leader, Dato' Seri Najib Tun Razak said today.

"We will mobilise our machinery at divisional level and the movement's training and education bureaus to achieve our objective," he added.

At present, the movement has about 300,000 members.

Dato' Seri Najib said the information campaign would involve talks on the historical aspect of the party and its struggle.

"We feel there are the important aspects that the young generation is not sensitive to," Dato' Seri Najib told reporters after an exco meeting today which also discussed an invitation by the MCA Youth exco meeting for a meeting to discuss common issues.

20/1/1991 (NST, 21/1/1991)

BUTTERWORTH: The State Umno Youth today announced the appointment of 11 committee members to serve as chairmen of various bureaux, its leader Haji Ahmad said today.

Haji Ahmad, who is State Assemblyman for Penanti, said he had been appointed dakwah and political bureau chairman.

Committee member Ismail Wan Chik was appointed financial, industry, investment and public enterprises chairman, while Encik Abdul Malik Kassim will be chairing the economic and petty traders bureau.

Other bureau chairmen were Nordin Nor (youth and anti-narcotics), Abdul Malik Anuar Lazim (training and human resources), Abu Bakar Ahmad (local government, housing, public works and public facilities),

Hasni Yassin (culture and tourism) and Munir Haji Abdullah (Land and agriculture).

20/1/1991 (NST, 21/1/1991)

JOHOR BARU: About 2,000 members from four Semangat 46 divisions in the country have expressed their desire to join Umno, Umno Secretary-general Mohamed Rahmat said today.

He said they had submitted their applications to the Umno headquarters last month.

He, however, declined to reveal the names of the divisions but said that the members has stated that the divisions would be dissolved.

Speaking to reporters after meeting the Umno Permatang division members here this afternoon, he said:

"I will bring the matter up to the management committee to decide on their applications."

Dato' Mohamed said that members of other Semangat 46 division had also sent "fellers" to Umno to find out if they would be accepted by the party.

He said that the opposition members decided to join forces with Umno so as not to cause further disunity among Malays.

Dato' Mohamed Rahmat, who is also the Information Minister, added that several opposition members had sought his help when their applications to join Umno were turned down by Umno branches and divisions.

"These branch leaders are afraid that their positions would be eroded should new members join the party," he said.

The Minister urged these leaders not to be selfish and to put aside their own interests of the party. The party's membership now stands at 1.5 million.

20/1/1991 (NST, 21/1/1991)

PETALING JAYA: The prosperity enjoyed by the people is testimony to the Barisan Nasional Government's competency in ruling the country all these years, Selangor Menteri Besar Tan Sri Muhammad Taib said last night.

"The people are living in harmony, economic growth has passed the 10 per cent mark while the unemployment rate is low," he added.

He said these were the result of effective and quality Government under the leadership of Prime Minister.

Speaking at a dinner organised by Kuala Kubu Baru Umno, he said unlike people in many countries, Malaysians could lead a peaceful life.

28/1/1991 (NST, 29/1/1991)

KUALA LUMPUR: Umno today accused the United States of misusing the United Nations Security Council resolution 678 in the current Gulf War.

The Secretary of its International Bureau, Haji Mustapha Yaacob, said the Security Council should convene a meeting immediately to pass a resolution 678.

"Umno Youth is very concerned with the on-going war and if a ceasefire is not agree, the war will lead to total distraction of Iraq, Kuwait and Saudi Arabia," he said in a statement to Bernama.

He said Umno Youth supported the Government's intention to be a mediator in settling the Gulf War.

Haji Mustapha said, the Government needed to use its influence at the United Nations, Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) and the non-Aligned Movement (NAM) towards holding a peace conference.

He said the United States did not suffer much in the Gulf War and the main casualty was the Arab States which saw the distraction of property and lives of innocent people. - Bernama

29/1/1991 (NST, 30/1/1991)

MALACCA: Umno president Dato' Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad will decide who among Sabah Umno division leaders will head the State liaison committee, Encik Ghafar Baba said today.

The deputy president said there would be 20 vacancies for division chairman in the State which has yet to filled. Dr Mahathir would consult the divisional chairmen before choosing the State chief.

Speaking after opening the Malacca Smallholders' Co-operative annual meeting here, Encik Ghafar said the decision was the prerogative of Dr Mahathir.

Asked whether Usno president Tun Mustapha Datu Harun would get the top job, Encik Ghafar, who is organising the party's entry to Sabah, said Tun Mustapha would have to decide for himself whether to resign as Usukan Assemblyman and offer himself for the post.

He was commenting on a statement by Tun Mustapha yesterday offering to resign as Usukan Assemblyman if he was offered to head Sabah Umno. (The Sabah State constitution requires an Assemblyman or an MP to resign should he switches party during his term.)

31/1/1991 (STAR, 1/2/1991)

KUALA LUMPUR: - Former Usno president Tun Datu Mustapha need not to vacate his Usukan state seat because he has **"not switched parties,"** Dato' Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today.

The Prime Minister said Tun Mustapha, who has joined Umno with four other Usno MPs, had contested on the Barisan Nasional ticket in last year's general election.

"He is not really switching the parties because the parent party is still the same.

"He contested as a Barisan candidate and not as Usno's. Therefore, his party is Barisan and not Umno or Usno. In my opinion there is no necessity for him to vacate his state seat.

"I don't know about the legal aspect (about the Sabah Constitutional provision compelling state assemblymen to give up their seats if they moved to another party)," he told reporters at Parliament House.

Asked whether he would challenge the provision, Dr Mahathir said decision on this had not been made yet.

He said a by-election would be held if it had to be held.

"But in my opinion, this is a waste of money because he is not really switching parties," he added.

He said that if the constitution could be amended, it would be better and **"clearer"**.

Dr Mahathir, who is Umno president, said he would officially launch Umno's entry into Sabah on Feb 21.

He said it had not been decided who should head the Sabah Umno liaison committee as he wanted to meet members of the Sabah Umno pro tem committee first.

On possible meeting with Sabah Chief Minister Datuk Pairin Kitingan, Dr Mahathir said he had not decided yet.

However, he added, he had heard from "some people" that Datuk Pairin wanted to meet him.

31/1/1991 (NST, 1/2/1991)

SERDANG: The move Usno president Tun Datu Mustapha to join Umno should serve as a catalyst to other Muslim and Bumiputera communities in Sabah to follow suit, Umno vice-president Dato' Seri Anwar Ibrahim said today.

He said he was confident that as Umno members, they could adapt themselves to the party and extent their co-operation to the different races in the coalition.

"If Usno can work together with the other races, like the Kadazans and Chinese in Sabah, they can also do so in Umno," Dato' Seri Anwar told reporters after opening the Malaysian Academics' Association's national convention at UPM.

He added that Umno's leadership in Sabah would be decided upon by party president Dato' Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

In Skudai, Umno Secretary-general Dato' Mohamed Rahmat said Sabahans wanted Umno to enter the State to help stabilise the political situation there, he said today.

"The turbulent political situation in Sabah warrants Umno's presence there," he said, adding that Usno had agreed to Umno's presence in the state.

Dato' Mohamed was speaking to reporters after launching a book *Unsur-unsur Astronomi Praktik* at the UTM.

"All Usno members who want to join Umno will be automatically registered as party members. Non-Usno members and other Sabahans will have to apply for membership."

He said Umno had opened its doors to all Bumiputeras in Sabah, regardless of their religion.

"Umno in Sabah will be headed by Sabahans and the members will enjoy the same rights as Umno members in other States."

Dato' Mohamed said the Umno headquarters was preparing half a million membership forms for Sabah.

He said he hoped that branch meetings in Sabah would be held within three months. *Ceramah* about Umno would be also be held during the meetings.

In Ipoh, Mentri Besar Tan Sri Ramli Ngah Talib said today described Tun Datu Mustapha's decision in the party's expansion.

"As he is Usno president, it will pave the way for Umno to get the support of the Sabahan's in all its development programmes," he said.

He said it would benefit the party tremendously as Sabahans would follow his examples and this would further solidify the party.

Tan Sri Ramli, who is also the State BN and Umno liaison committee chairman, also hoped that all other Usno members would follow the example of Tun Datu Mustapha and join Umno.

1/2/1991 (STAR, 2/2/1991)

KOTA KINABALU: A by-election in the Usukan state constituency in Sabah is unavoidable if its representative, Tun Datu Mustapha, quits the party to join Umno, legal sources here said today.

They said the Sabah Constitution clearly states that an elected representative who quits a party to join another party, will automatically have his seat declared vacant.

Although Usno was a BN component party, the party contested under its own symbol in the last state election, say sources.

However, one lawyer who spoke on condition of anonymity, called for the abolition of such laws which he felt restricted the freedom and rights of state assemblymen.

State Assembly secretary Datuk Francis Yap said the assembly had not received any letter from Tun Datu Mustapha, who is Usno president, that he had quit Usno.

Prime Minister Dato' Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said yesterday he felt that the by-election should not be held because Tun Mustapha was still in the BN although he had joined Umno.

Tun Mustapha contested as a BN candidate in the last Sabah state election just as he (Dr Mahathir) contested as a BN candidate despite being from Umno, he added. - Bernama

1/2/1991 (NST, 2/2/1991)

KOTA KINABALU: Nomination for the Usno party elections which closes tomorrow is likely to be extended to give the divisions time to nominate candidates for the president and deputy president's posts.

Executive secretary Nilwan Kabang said all the divisions had wanted incumbent president Tun Datu Mustapha and deputy president Tan Sri Sakaran Dandai to be returned unopposed.

But the two Usno stalwarts announced in Kuala Lumpur last Wednesday that they had quit the party and officially joined Umno.

Three other Usno Members of Parliament - Deputy Minister of Local Government and Housing Osu Haji Sukam (Papar), Deputy Information Minister Railey Haji Jefrey (Silam) and Deputy Dewan Rakyat Speaker Juhar Mahiruddin (Kinabatangan) - also joined Umno.

"We may probably extend the closing date for nomination for another week," Encik Nilwan said.

The Usno party elections will be held during its annual delegates conference from Feb 21-24.

Among the likely candidate for the president's posts is Tun Mustapha's son, Datu Amir Kahar, who is at present one of the seven Usno vice-presidents.

Datu Amir Kahar is the only MP left in Usno. He is MP for Marudu and Assemblyman for Banggi.

Vice-presidents John Ghani, Haji Ampong Puyong and Haji Salim Bacho have mentioned for the deputy president's post.

1/2/1991 (STAR, 2/2/1991)

JOHOR BARU: Tun Datu Mustapha is likely to be appointed the Sabah Umno liaison committee chief.

Umno Secretary-general Dato' Mohamed Rahmat told newsmen today that Tun Mustapha was a likely choice "but this will be decided at the party supreme council meeting on Saturday."

"The setting up of Sabah Umno and the question of members and leaders of the state liaison committee will be deliberated at the meeting," he told reporters at Umno House.

"The final decision will be made by the party president. But the head of Sabah Umno will definitely be a Sabahan."

Dato' Mohamed, who is Information Minister, said he was not aware of other person from Sabah besides Tun Mustapha who was being considered for the post.

He said Umno would also open membership to all Bumiputres in the East Malaysia state, irrespective of religion.

Tun Mustapha announced on Wednesday that he had joined Umno and that 80 per cent of Usno members in Sabah would also do so soon.

Dato' Mohamed said the party was printing more than 500,000 membership application forms for distribution in Sabah once the membership drive was launched.

He said his ministry was starting a new programme to disseminate information on inventions and discoveries made by local universities and institutions of higher learning.

"The aim is to publicise discoveries which could help the people and also encourage the private institutions of higher learning to conduct more research in various fields," he said.

1/2/1991 (STAR, 2/2/1991)

KOTA KINABALU: Usno claimed today that the PBS was spreading rumours to create disunity among the Bumiputras here as tactic to foil Umno's entry into Sabah.

Usno's Information chief Dr Yusof Yaakob described PBS vice-president Datuk Lajim Okin's statement that the PBS was willing to form a coalition with Usno as a clear attempt to split the Bumiputras in Sabah and the peninsula.

He said that rumours regarding such negotiations were being circulated by certain quarters whereas Usno had never entered into negotiations with the PBS to form a coalition government.

"Usno has not yet forgotten PBS's treachery in 1985," he said referring in the state elections in that year in which PBS allegedly lured Usno into forming a pact to topple the ruling Berjaya state government with the promise that it would set up a coalition government should they win.

Datuk Lajim had told a press conference here yesterday that the PBS was prepared to set up a coalition government with Usno to **"solve the political crisis in Sabah."**

Dr Yusof said PBS was now worried as Umno's entry into Sabah was now almost assured and their anxiety was compounded by the fact that former Usno president Tun Datu Mustapha was joining Umno.

He said until late last night rumours were circulating here that Usno and Tun Mustapha were not too happy about Umno's entry into Sabah.

"In fact, the local press had even reported that Tun Mustapha would supposedly continue to head Usno and not join Umno," he said.

"This is why many were shocked that Tun Mustapha had become an Umno members," he added.

All Usno members have become Umno members with the exception of Usno state assemblymen who will remain in the party until the next state election, he said. - Bernama

1/2/1991 (NST, 2/2/1991)

KUALA LUMPUR: The MCA's three-man committee set up to gauge the feasibility of the party expanding to Sabah will visit the State after Chinese New Year to continue its works.

MCA vice-president Datuk Yap Pian Hin, who is also a member of the special panel, said today that since its formation last November the committee had been in contact with various **"channels"** in Sabah to get their response on the matter.

Among those whose opinions it sought were Chinese community leaders and heads of the business community, he said in a telephone interview.

He was responding to a question on what the MCA's would be now that Umno had succeeded in expanding to Sabah.

Umno's breakthrough in Sabah followed an announcement on Wednesday by Usno president Tun Datu Mustapha that he had joined Umno and would be followed by all Usno MPs except his son Datu Amir Kahar.

Datuk Yap said the committee would compile a report on its findings after their visit to Sabah.

The other members of the panel are Penang MVCA chairman Dr Sak Cheng Lum and Federal Territory MCA chairman Tan Chai Ho.

Asked whether they would meet Sabah Chief Minister during the visit, Datuk Yap said there was no need for such a meeting as Datuk Pairin's PBS-led State Government was now in the opposition camp.

Datuk Yap said that among the aspects which needed to be thoroughly studied before MCA expanded to Sabah was whether it had the support of the State's Chinese community.

The move, he said, could not be rushed as the political situation in Sabah was different from that in the peninsula.

Datuk Yap added that unlike Umno, which could expect to absorb all Usno members into the party, MCA had yet to receive such a response from Chinese-based parties in Sabah.

3/2/1991 (NST, 4/2/1991)

KOTA KINABALU: Usno is prepared to discuss the possibility of forming a coalition government in the State if approached by the ruling Parti Bersatu Sabah, Usno vice-president Datu Amir Kahar said.

The PBS can rule the State without us, so if the PBS is really serious about the matter, they should make the first move," he told reporters on his arrival here from Kuala Lumpur today.

The PBS commands 36 of the 48 State Assembly seats while Usno holds 11 and Umno one. The sole Umno seat is held by former Usno president Tun Datu Mustapha who resigned from Usno and joined Umno last Wednesday.

"We only have 11 seats, so if the PBS wants us to joint run the State Government then they should approach us," he said.

Datu Amir Kahar, who is Marudu MP and Assemblyman for Banggi did not deny nor confirm speculation the PBS and Usno leaders had been holding talks on the matter.

He admitted meeting a few PBS leaders in Kuala Lumpur but declined to say if they discussed the possibility of jointly running the State Government.

Senior PBS vice-president Dato' Lajim Haji Okin had, in a statement on Thursday, said the PBS was prepared to hold talks with Usno.

4/2/1991 (STAR, 5/2/1991)

KUALA LUMPUR: The PBS has proposed forming a coalition government with Usno in Sabah.

Sabah Chief Minister and PBS president Datuk Pairin Kitingan suggested this to Dato' Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad at a meeting here on Saturday.

The Prime Minister told Datuk Pairin and other PBS leaders that the BN supported any pact between Usno and the PBS but it must be within the context of the coalition.

"I explained to them the BN's stand the various forms of co-operation," Dr Mahathir told newsmen today after opening a World Bank symposium.

Asked whether the PBS wanted to rejoin the BN, Dr Mahathir said the party leaders did not make any statement of the kind at the meeting.

"But in the discussions we brought up the question of whether co-operation outside BN could be done or whether there was a need to join the BN first. But there was no suggestion (as to which course should be taken)," he said.

The PBS had pulled out of the BN shortly before the polling day in the October general election to align itself with Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah's Gagasan Rakyat.

There has been much talk that the two main parties in Sabah would co-operate, especially after vice-president Datuk Lajim Okin announced last week that the PBS was prepared to hold talks with Usno.

Yesterday, Usno vice-president Datu Amir Kahar said the party was prepared to discuss the possibility of a coalition government if approached by the PBS.

The PBS hold 36 of the 48 seats in the State Assembly, Usno 11, and Umno one.

The sole Umno seat is held by former Usno president Tun Datu Mustapha, who resigned from Usno to join Umno on Wednesday.

Dr Mahathir said he told Datuk Pairin of the possible problems, adding that the situation in Sabah was different from Sarawak's.

"In Sarawak, there is co-operation among three component BN parties. The other (BN) party is in opposition, but they are in the BN," he said.

On whether any PBS co-operation with Usno would mean having a pact with Umno since Usno members would be joining Umno, Dr Mahathir replied:

"That is the problem because the position of Usno has changed. Usno is both Umno and Usno."

He said a pact with Usno could eventually end up as a pact with Umno, and it would be difficult for the Sabah Umno to work with the PBS without the "knowledge of Umno."

Dr Mahathir said he would discuss with the other BN leaders the PBS proposal.

When contacted today, PBS Secretary-general Datuk Joseph Kurup said he would call for an emergency supreme meeting to discuss the matter.

He said Datuk Pairin would be in a better position to explain to members and supporters of the proposal.

"But as far as I know, the coalition issue involving the PBS and Usno has not been discussed in any meeting so far," he added.

In Kota Kinabalu, Datu Amir Kahar said today the party would discuss the proposed in detail.

"But if the BN agrees generally to the idea, the matter should be approved (by Usno) because it is a good solution for Sabah's political problems," he told Bernama.

On the position of Umno in the state, Datu Amir Kahar said it was left to the discretion of the Prime Minister and Umno leaders.

4/2/1991 (NST, 5/2/1991)

KUALA LUMPUR: Umno's expansion to Sabah is a major step forward in bringing about political unity among the Malays in the State, party vice-president Dato' Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said today.

Describing the move as significant and historical to the party, he added the recent development in the expansion plan had been very positive.

"The decision by Usno leaders led by their president Tun Datu Mustapha to join Umno indicated that the party is readily accepted in Sabah."

He said he was confident that grassroots members of Usno would follow suit soon.

Dato' Abdullah added he was optimistic that Umno in future would emerge to be a major political platform for Malays and Bumiputeras in Sabah.

"I have always voiced the view that Umno should not be a problem in Sabah when it was set up there," he said when asked to comment on the prospect of Umno's entry to the State.

5/2/1991 (NST, 6/2/1991)

KUALA LUMPUR: Prime Minister Dato' Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad is expected to brief selected BN component leaders tomorrow on his talks with Sabah Chief Minister and PBS president Datuk Pairin Kitingan.

Announcing this today MCA president Datuk Seri Ling Liong Sik said the party would listen to the briefing first rather than make any statement on the matter.

"I will not like to say anything now until I hear from the Prime Minister," Datuk Seri Ling said when asked to comment on the talks between Dr Mahathir and Datuk Pairin.

Meanwhile, Usno senior vice-president Osu Haji Sukam said the PBS should first work with Umno, if it was really sincere in wanting to form a coalition with Usno in Sabah.

"This is not a condition but it shows whether PBS is sincere in the latest political development in Sabah," Encik Osu said.

Yesterday, Dr Mahathir said the PBS was keen to form a coalition Government with Usno in the State.

Encik Osu, who is also the Deputy Housing and Local Government Minister, said if a PBS-Usno coalition to place and to avoid by-elections, the State Government should amend the State Constitution to facilitate this move.

The present State Constitution requires a by-election to be held if a State Assemblyman switched parties.

5/2/1991 (NST, 6/2/1991)

KOTA KINABALU: Usno president Tun Datu Mustapha, who joined Umno together with four other party leaders last Wednesday, has been asked to state their stand in Usno.

Usno Secretary-general Askalani Rahim said today the party secretariat has yet to receive their resignation letter although they had announced that they had resigned and joined Umno.

The other Usno leaders who joined Umno are deputy president Tan Sri Sakaran Dandai who is also Land Cooperative Development Minister, vice-president Osu Haji Sukam, youth head Railey Haji Jeffrey and supreme council member Juhar Haji Mahiruddin.

"As far as the Usno secretariat is concerned, Tun Mustapha and four others are still with the party.

"To the Usno secretariat they still hold their respective positions in the party until they officially tender their resignation, he said.

According to Encik Askalani, the resignation of five party stalwarts had resulted in confusion among leaders and members.

He said the Usno secretariat here had received enquires from members about the position of the five in the party.

"We need to know their stand," he added.

Besides, the five have been nominated to defend their respective posts in the forthcoming party elections.

5/2/1991 (NST, 6/2/1991)

KOTA KINABALU: Usno has conveyed its stand to the Prime Minister on the proposal by the PBS to form a coalition government with the party.

Usno Secretary-general Askalani Abdul Rahim said the party would abide with whatever decision was taken by the Prime Minister who is also BN chairman.

"Usno has made its stand and we leave it to the Prime Minister to decide whether we should form a coalition government with PBS or not," he said at a Press conference at the Usno headquarters here today.

Usno is a BN component party while the PBS is not. The PBS pulled out of the BN on the eve of the parliamentary general elections last October to join the opposition Gagasan Rakyat.

Encik Askalani said Usno made its stand during the party's supreme council meeting on Feb 2.

He denied there have been secret meetings between PBS and Usno leaders to discuss the proposed formation of a coalition government.

7/2/1991 (NST, 8/2/1991)

KUALA LUMPUR: Umno vice-president Dato' Abdullah Haji Ahmad Badawi today described the proposal by PBS to form a coalition Government with Usno in Sabah as an attempt to "checkmate" Umno's entry into Sabah.

He said the PBS proposal is a subtle attempt to stop Usno members and Bumiputeras in Sabah from joining Umno. Umno president Dato' Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad is expected to inaugurate the party's entry on Feb 20.

In an interview today, Dato' Abdullah said he felt that PBS president Datu Pairin should accept Umno's entry to Sabah as a reality and a fact of life.

"If he has any proposal involving whatever form of co-operation, Datuk Pairin should direct these proposals to Umno and not Usno.

"Datuk Pairin's attempt to have a coalition with Usno is a clear indication that he is not happy with Umno's move to Sabah.

"He is actually trying to mislead the Malays in Sabah by proposing a coalition with Usno," he said.

Dato' Abdullah said Umno would be able to provide a platforms of greater unity of the Malays and Bumiputeras in Sabah.

Another Umno vice-president, Dato' Seri Anwar Ibrahim, said the BN must seriously examine the PBS intention.

He said this was important because the BN has has past experiences with PBS which pulled out of the ruling coalition on the eve of the general election last year.

Supreme Council member Senator Annuar Musa wanted to know whether Datuk Pairin was sincere in his move.

"I am questioning Datuk Pairin's credibility. I am not saying that he is not sincere, I just want him to say it and mean it. The BN does not have to rush to a decision," he said.

7/2/1991 (NST, 8/2/1991)

KUALA LUMPUR: Deputy Prime Minister Ghafar Baba said today PBS's proposal to form a coalition Government in Sabah with Usno should be regarded with good faith.

He said there would be no progress if the move was viewed with suspicion.

"This is something to be discussed with honesty and an open heart," he said when replying to questions from reporters after receiving Vietnam First Vice-Chairman of the Council of Ministers Vo Van Kiet.

Encik Ghafar , who is also BN Secretary-general, said the matter would be easier to deal with if the PBS was speaking with one voice but this was not the case.

He also described the overture as unprecedented because while Umno had a coalition Government in Kelantan with Pas from 1972 to 1978, Pas was ready in the BN.

Umno also had a coalition Government with Gerakan in Penang before the formation of the BN, he added.

However, PBS is not in the BN, having pulled out just before the general election last October.

8/2/1991 (STAR, 9/2/1991)

KOTA KINABALU: Tun Datu Mustapha said today he will not vacate his Usukan state seat even after he resigns from Usno and joins Umno.

He said he would challenge any decision of the of the Sabah Assembly to vacate the seat.

The Sabah Constitution stipulates that any assemblyman who resigns from one party and joins another automatically vacates the seat he holds.

"This law is very peculiar. If I am directed to vacate my seat, then the right of the voters is being disregarded," he told reporters on his return from Kuala Lumpur.

Tun Mustapha, who is MP for Limbawang, said he would submit his letter of resignation as president and member of Usno at the party's general assembly on Feb 21-24.

He said the setting of Umno in Sabah and the mass resignation of Usno members to join Umno was a sacrifices "in the interests of the people."

He said Umno's entry into Sabah would serve to establish goodwill among Bumiputera in the state regardless of the ethnic and religious differences.

Tun Mustapha also said it would be left to Prime Minister Dato' Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad to decide whether to have any form of co-operation between the ruling PBS and the BN at state level.

He said co-operation would be between the PBS and Usno was being establish in the state.

He confirmed that several PBS leaders had, since last year, tried to have discussions with Usno for the establishment of a coalition government in Sabah.

8/2/1991 (STAR, 9/2/1991)

KUALA LUMPUR: The Gulf war and the PBS proposal for a coalition with Usno in Sabah will dominate discussions at the Umno supreme council meeting tomorrow.

And immediately after the meeting, Dato' Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad will brief a closed-door gathering of more than 700 state liaison committee members and representatives of the branches and divisions at the Putra World Trade Centre.

Umno officials said the party president wants to clear any confusion that may arise from the proposal, and also outline measures to counter "deliberate distortions" of the Government's stand on the Gulf War.

Many Umno leaders, like their counterparts in the other BN parties, are wary about the PBS move.

"It is a proposal that we should weigh carefully," vice-president Dato' Seri Anwar Ibrahim said today.

"We have enough experiences with them which we must not forget," he added, apparently referring to the PBS pullout from the BN days before polling for the October general election.

Another vice-president, Dato' Abdullah Ahmad Badawi, fears that the proposal may be an attempt to "checkmate" Umno's entry into Sabah.

Party officials said the establishment of Umno would be discussed, including appointment of the liaison committee.

Umno Secretary-general Dato' Mohamed Rahmat said there was misunderstanding over the Government's stand on the Gulf war.

Some Umno members admit to being concerned over the actions of Pas, which has criticed the government stand and persists in alluding to the Gulf War as jihad.

9/2/1991 (NST, 10/2/1991)

KUALA LUMPUR: Umno president Dato' Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad will head the Kelantan Umno liaison committee with appointed supreme council member Haji Annuar Musa as his deputy.

Party deputy president Ghafar Baba will head Umno's liaison committee in Sabah.

When told that the leaders of Barisan Nasional component parties and some Umno leaders had called on the Barisan leadership to apply caution in view of the fact that the PBS pulled out of the ruling coalition before the general election, Dr Mahathir said he was not surprised.

He said PBS leadership must understand why the component party leaders were questioning their sincerity.

"They must prove their sincerity in wanting a coalition Government with a component party of the BN. However, we will discuss the matter when the BN holds its next meeting."

At today's meeting, Dr Mahathir said the supreme council appointed a five member delegation, which he will head, to meet the Rulers to submit the Umno resolution on the Rulers and the constitution.

Other delegation members are Encik Ghafar, vice-president Dato' Seri Anwar Ibrahim, Wanita chief Dato' Seri Rafidah Aziz and Youth chief Dato' Seri Najib Tun Razak.

"We will meet the Yang di-Pertuan Agong to hand over the resolution and a letter written by the supreme council. We will then meet the Rulers individually to discuss the contents of the letter written by the supreme council."

The supreme council decided that Umno members have to pay their subscriptions by May 31, and that all branch annual general meetings for this year will be held from June 1 to July 31.

The divisional meetings will be held between Aug 1 and Sept 30, and the general assembly in November.

9/2/1991 (NST, 10/2/1991)

KUALA LUMPUR: Umno divisional heads and committee members have been urged to expedite the verification of its members to help the party reclaim all its assets, Prime Minister said today.

He said the party was claiming back its assets which had been "seized" when the old Umno was deregistered on Feb 12, 1988.

"The divisional heads and their committee members must take the initiative to locate Umno members and to compile the necessary information from them," said Dr Mahathir, who is also Umno president.

Dr Mahathir said this after a two-hour closed door briefing on various developments in the party to divisional heads and committee members at Dewan Merdeka PWTC.

Asked if there were problems in verifying these members, he said: "There is no problem. We just want to get confirmation from the members with regard to their membership."

Dr Mahathir said it was important for party members to give their support in this matter and give proof of their membership.

To a question as to when the exercise could be completed, he said "within one month."

He said decisions taken by the Umno Supreme Council which met earlier this morning were also conveyed to the members.

These included the Cabinet reshuffles, Umno's expansion to Sabah and its political development, follow-up actions on the resolution which was passed at the last general Umno general assembly on the Rulers and the Constitution.

He also told the gathering that he had taken over the post of Umno Kelantan liaison chief.

9/2/1991 (NST, 10/2/1991)

KOTA KINABALU: Usno will not be dissolved even tough party leaders headed by the president Tun Datu Mustapha are joining Umno.

However, Usno will not compete with Umno.

Instead, the two parties will work hand-in-hand in the interest of the people of Sabah.

The Umno supreme council which met last night unanimously voted that all the party's leaders except for its 11 State Assemblymen join Umno, said Tun Mustapha at a Press conference here. The meeting was chaired by Tun Mustapha.

"We will officially join UMNO after the party's (Usno) annual general meeting from Feb 22 to 24," he said.

Usno would cater for those members who don't join Umno.

Tun Mustapha also said the existence of Usno would ensure that "certain quarters would not be abused the party."

"If Usno is dissolved these people will embark on a scheme to revive the party. But the real intention is to destroy Umno," he said.

The 11 Usno members of the State Legislative Assembly would not join Umno. This would avoid by-elections in their respective constituencies.

I am resigning as Usno president and member and risking a by-election in my Usukan State seat," he said.

Tun Mustapha said he would not tender his resignation letter to the Legislative Assembly. If his Usukan seat is declared vacant he will challenge the decision in court.

"This is a testing ground. If my case is successful the 11 Usno assemblymen will also join Umno," he said.

10/2/1991 (STAR, 11/2/1991)

KUALA LUMPUR: Umno Youth leader Railey Haji Jeffrey said Tun Mustapha should have been the right candidate for the post of Umno liaison chief for Sabah.

Nevertheless, he said Usno respected the decision of the Prime Minister and would extend its fullest co-operation to Deputy Prime Minister Ghafar Baba who has been appointed to the post.

He expressed hope that the appointment of Encik Ghafar, who is also deputy Umno president, would speed up the expansion of Umno to the State.

"We respect the Prime Minister's decision and we will extend our fullest co-operation to Encik Ghafar. We have every confidence in him."

Dato' Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, who is Umno president, announced the appointment of Encik Ghafar in Kuala Lumpur yesterday.

10/2/1991 (STAR. 11/2/1991)

KUALA LUMPUR, Sun.- Umno wants all former members to rejoin the party to facilitate efforts to regain its assets, Secretary-general Dato' Mohamed Rahmat said today.

He said efforts to regain their assets, which had been placed under the administration of the Official Assignee following a Court decision three years ago that the party was unlawful, would be made easier if most of the former members rejoined the party.

If the interpretation of the "majority" was 50 per cent, the present Umno had the right to claim the assets, he told reporters at the Merdeka Square here.

He said nearly one million of the present Umno membership of 1.5 million were members of the old Umno.

Umno's efforts to regain the assets were now in its final stage, he said, adding that Umno hoped to get details of membership from members by the end of this month.

Dato' Mohamed said the Umno headquarters has sent details of former members to its branches and divisions so that they could trace and register these people as members.

He said a large Umno membership would also help strengthen political stability in the country.

On Umno's decision to spread to Sabah, he said thousands of membership forms had been sent to the state and some of them had been returned to party headquarters. - Bernama

10/2/1991 (STAR, 11/2/1991)

KUALA LUMPUR, Sun.- The cabinet reshuffle has strengthened the Government line-up, Deputy Prime Minister Abdul Ghafar Baba said today.

"The appointments are appropriate," he told reporters after sending Vietnamese Deputy Prime Minister Vo Van Kiat at Subang airport.

He said the ministers involved in the reshuffle were known for their responsible attitude and dedication, and as such people would have confidence in them.

Prime Minister Dato' Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad announced yesterday the appointment of education Minister Dato' Seri Anwar Ibrahim as the Finance Minister.

Dato' Seri Anwar is replaced by Dato' Sulaiman Daud whose Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs portfolio go to Foreign Minister Dato' Abu Hassan Omar. Dato' Abdullah Ahmad Badawi is the new Foreign Minister.

Several top BN leaders have also lauded Dr Mahathir is for his "magnanimity" in appointing Umno vice-president Dato' Abdullah as a minister.

MCA deputy president Dato' Lee Kim Sai described the reshuffle as a "full realization of Umno's democratic spirit."

He said Dato' Abdullah's return to the Government reflected the mandate given to him by Umno delegates at the general assembly last year.

Dato' Lee said he had confidence in Dato' Seri Anwar as the new Finance Minister because of his past performance and his "great commitment" to the national interest.

11/2/1991 (STAR, 12/2/1991)

KUALA LUMPUR: Usno leader Tun Datu Mustapha said today that there was "no problem" over the appointment of Encik Ghafar Baba as the head of Sabah Umno.

"There is no problem because everybody understand that it (the appointment of the Umno vice-president as Sabah Umno chief) is only a temporary arrangement until Sabah Umno has been properly set up," he said.

Tun Mustapha told newsmen at his home in Petaling Jaya that this meeting with Umno Secretary-general Dato' Mohamed Rahmat tonight nothing to do with the purported "misunderstanding" between Usno and Umno.

Usno leaders, said Tun Mustapha, were not unhappy over the appointment which was announced by Dato' Seri Dr Mahathir on Saturday.

His meeting tonight was just to brief Dato' Mohamed on Usno's preparations for Umno to set up its branch in Sabah, he said.

Some Usno members had said earlier that they would not join Umno unless Tun Mustapha was made the state party chief.

Tun Mustapha himself holding talks after getting the endorsement of all Usno supreme members, assemblymen and MPs at a hastily convened meeting in Kota Kinabalu last night.

11/2/1991 (NST, 12/2/1991)

KOTA KINABALU: Usno supreme council members, State Assemblymen and MPs will not join Umno unless Tun Datu Mustapha is appointed in the party's head in Sabah.

They made the decision after a meeting at Usno headquarters here last night following the appointment of Encik Ghafar Baba, Umno's deputy president, as the head of the Sabah liaison committee.

Umno president Dato' Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad announced Encik Ghafar's appointment after the party's supreme council meeting in Kuala Lumpur last Saturday.

Usno Secretary-general Askalani Rahim said the party would send a memorandum to Dr Mahathir requesting him to consider appointing Tun Mustapha as Umno head in the State.

Umno Secretary-general Dato' Mohamed Rahmat met Tun Mustapha at the latter's residence in Petaling Jaya tonight to discuss the latest developments.

An aide of Tun Mustapha told Bernama when contacted at the residence that Dato' Mohamed arrived at 9pm and the meeting was expected to last about two hours.

It is understood that Dato' Mohamed briefed Tun Mustapha on the decision of the Umno supreme council over the weekend to appoint Encik Ghafar as liaison chief.

Earlier in Kota Kinabalu, Tun Mustapha said he was disappointed that the Umno leadership had not appointed a Sabahan to head Umno in the State.

Speaking to reporters before leaving federal capital, Tun Mustapha said: "I fail to understand why someone else was appointed as Sabah's Umno liaison chief when it was agreed that a Sabahan would be appointed to the post.

"In order not to jeopardise efforts to bring Umno to Sabah, the Umno leadership must strictly comply to what was agreed upon by the two parties."

In Kuala Lumpur, Umno leaders said they would verify Usno's reaction on Encik Ghafar's appointment. Party president Dr Mahathir told reporters at Parliament House that he had yet to receive any official report from Sabah.

Dr Mahathir said : "I won't comment on this until I get the official report."

Vice-president Dato' Abdullah Ahmad Badawi also said he would wait for the official report first before making any comment.

Another Umno vice-president Dato' Seri Anwar Ibrahim, said the appointment of any Umno State liaison had was the party president's prerogative.

He said Encik Ghafar's appointment was to help lay the foundation of Umno's entry into Sabah and subsequently strengthen Umno's base in the State.

14/2/1991 (NST, 15/2/1991)

LANGKAWI, Thurs.- Prime Minister Dato' Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today the misunderstanding over Umno's entry into Sabah has been cleared up after discussions between him and Usno president Tun Datu Mustapha and between Deputy Prime Minister and Deputy Usno president Tan Sri Haji Sakaran Dandai.

He said some people had tried to create the misunderstanding as they were unhappy over Umno's entry into Sabah.

"Tun Datu Mustapha has accepted our decision on Sabah Umno," he told reporters after attending the Rulers' Conference.

It was reported in newspaper that certain Usno leaders were unhappy with the appointment of Encik Ghafar to head Umno in Sabah and wanted Tun Datu Mustapha to be at the helm of the party.

Dr Mahathir did not dismiss the possibility of attempts to foil the starting up of Umno in Sabah.

He said it was clear that Umno had no intention of **"controlling"** Sabah Umno.

The appointment of Encik Ghafar to head the Sabah Umno was only temporary and the leadership of the party would be handed over to a Sabah leader when all matters relating to the formation of Umno had been completed.

21/2/1991 (NST, 22/2/1991)

KOTA KINABALU: Umno president Dato' Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad today launched Sabah Umno with the pledge that local leaders will eventually have full control of the party in the State.

He also announced the appointment of Tun Datu Mustapha as the party's State deputy liaison chairman to the cheer of some 5,000 Usno delegates and observers attending the party's 23rd annual general assembly at Wisma Muis here.

Dr Mahathir announced the launching of Sabah Umno at 2.40pm after addressing the assembly for an hour and 10 minutes. He simultaneously officiated at Usno's general assembly.

This was immediately followed by the handing over of Umno membership application forms by Tun Mustapha and divisional leaders. Dr Mahathir, then presented the Umno flag to Tun Datu Mustapha. The flag was later raised as the Umno song played.

Dr Mahathir told the audience the appointment of Deputy Umno president Ghafar Baba as Sabah Umno's liaison chairman was temporary. It was done to facilitate the formation of the party in the state.

He said while Tun Datu Mustapha would ensure the smooth entry of Usno members in Umno, Encik Ghafar would introduce other Bumiputera

into the party, adding that Umno wanted as many Bumiputera as possible, including those from PBS, to become Umno members.

Dr Mahathir said Encik Ghafar would be in a position to decide what best for Umno in Sabah in the initial stages, pointing to the fact that Encik Ghafar had worked hard in the recent general election to help Usno candidates.

He said the appointment of Encik Ghafar to head Sabah Umno for the time being was decided by the Umno supreme council meeting in good faith and was not meant to put Sabah leaders in the back seat.

Dr Mahathir, paying tribute to Tun Datu Mustapha for his untiring devotion to Usno, said he was confident that with the support of former Usno members and other Bumiputeras, Umno would be a strong political party in the State and even stronger in the country.

Dr Mahathir said a stronger Umno would be in a much better position to continue to share power with other Malaysia races for the benefit of Bumiputeras and Malaysians.

In his address, Dr Mahathir praised the history of Umno and the many sacrifices it had made to promote the stability and unity of the country.

He said the history of Malay struggle through Umno was full of sacrifices from the day they decided to dissolve their State and regional associations to form Umno on May 11, 1946.

He added that Umno sacrificed its name when it decided to form the Alliance with the MCA and MIC in the early years of the independence struggle.

When Malaysia was formed in 1963, the Malays again sacrificed their identity for the benefit of the country by opting for the name Malaysia instead of Melayu Raya.

With the formation of Malaysia too, the name Persekutuan Tanah Melayu was dropped.

28/2/1991 (STAR, 1/3/1991)

KUALA LUMPUR, Thurs.- The Umno and MCA Youth wings have formed a working committee to study the possibility of formalizing the BN Youth structure.

The committee, headed by Umno Youth deputy chief Basri Tan Sri Aziz, will determine if a formal structure would make the BN Youth more effective.

The committee will first have to see whether by-laws are needed to formalize the structure.

The decision to set up the committee was made at a two-hour meeting between leaders of both wings today. Umno Youth was led by its chief, Dato' Seri Najib Tun Razak, and MCA by his counterpart, Dato' Chan Kong Choy.

Dato' Seri Najib told newsmen that the present set-up within the Barisan Youth was only a **"loose arrangement which was like a club."**

"There is a general view that a formal structure within the BN Youth will make it more effective," he said.

Both sides also decided to understand better the wishes and aspirations of the various races, especially the Chinese and Malays, in an effort to close the racial gap.

28/2/1991 (NST, 1/3/1991)

IPOH, Thurs.- The Regent of Perak has received the resolution on the Rulers and the Constitution which the Umno General Assembly adopted last year.

Menteri Besar Tan Sri Ramli Ngah Talib said here today he handed over the resolution two days ago.

Meanwhile, in Kuantan Pahang Umno will hand over the party's resolution to the Sultan of Pahang in London.

Menteri Besar Tan Sri Haji Mohamad Khalil Yaakob, who is also the State Umno Liaison Committee chairman, will hand over the resolution, a close aide to the Menteri Besar said today.

Tan Sri Haji Khalil left for London this week on a two-week holiday and would seek an audience with the Sultan to hand over the resolution.

He added that the Menteri Besar, who is on leave from Feb 25 to March 10, was also expected to discuss matters pertaining to the relationship between Umno and the palace with the Sultan.

An official at the Istana Abu Bakar in Pekan confirmed that the Sultan was in London on holiday.

In December last year, the Umno general assembly adopted a resolution on the Rulers and the Constitution and urged the party leadership to meet the King to discuss further the Rulers' role under the country's Constitution.

The resolution tabled by Penang's Tanjung division, among other things, urged for wisdom on the part of the Rulers to adhere strictly to the Federal and State Constitution to ensure the integrity, sovereignty and survival of the institution of monarchy.

1/3/1991 (STAR, 2/3/1991)

KOTA KINABALU: Former Usno vice-president Dato' Mohamad Dun Banir said today his group of Umno supporters are against any move by Usno leaders to "screen" membership to Sabah Umno.

He said Umno was brought to Sabah with the specific aim of uniting all Bumiputeras, regardless of racial origin and religious belief, and the question of screening non-Usno applicants must not raised.

Dato' Mohamed Dun, whose group initiated efforts to bring Umno into Sabah from 1977, said they would send a memorandum to Umno president Dato' Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad to protest against Usno's "attempt to dominate Sabah Umno."

Sabah Umno deputy liaison chief Tun Datu Mustapha said on Tuesday that Usno would screen non-Usno members to be appointed to the state liaison committee.

All 20 pro tem Sabah Umno division chiefs appointed were from Usno, although the formula was 14 Usno members and six from outside.

The state Umno liaison committee, headed by Encik Ghafar Baba, will also be on a basis 14:6 basis.

5/3/1991 (NST, 6/3/1991)

KUALA TERENGGANU: The High Court today disallowed the former MP for Kuala Nerus and a voter to verbally withdraw their petitions which seek to annul the election of an Umno division deputy chief as the new MP.

Mr Justice Dato' Haji Ahmad Fairus Shiekh Abdul Halim ordered that both ex-MP Haji Ibrahim Hassan and Encik Abd Ghani Yusof to submit written applications, complete with sworn affidavits stating their grounds for the withdrawal and that their withdrawal was not the result of a coalition.

He said this was in accordance with the Election Petition Rules.

He was rejecting a request by their counsel, Miss M. Indrani Lee, to dispense with written applications and affidavits as allowed under Section 21(2) of the same rules.

Mr Justice Fairuz also directed Dato' Rashid Mohamad, who was elected the new MP, the Election Commission and the Kuala Nerus returning officer (who were named as the second and third respondent in the petitions).

6/3/1991 (NST, 7/3/1991)

KOTA KINABALU: All Usno branches throughout the State which were dissolved on Feb 25 have automatically become Umno pro-tem branches to expedite the establishment of Umno in Sabah.

This decision was adopted in a special meeting between Sabah Umno deputy liaison chairman Tun Datu Haji Mustapha and the 20 pro-tem divisional leaders and Usno leaders.

The meeting held on Feb 24 attended by former Usno supreme council members was held at the United Sabah Islamic Association headquarters at Sembulan, near here.

Head of the Tawau Umno pro-tem committee Dato' Dr Kassim Kamidin said today the decision which unanimous, will enable former Usno leaders to contest for posts in the Umno branches and divisions elections.

The abolishment of all Usno branches was one of the five resolutions tabled by Tun Mustapha and was adopted by the 500 delegates during Usno's 23rd annual general meeting on Feb 22, this year.

Dato' Dr Kassim said with the automatic transformation of former Usno branches into Umno branches, members were required to pay entrance fees when applying for membership with Sabah Umno as they had done so on Feb 25.

9/3/1991 (STAR, 10/3/1991)

KUALA LUMPUR, Sat.- Dato' Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today that the Umno general assembly's resolution on constitutional monarchy has been well accepted by the rulers.

"It appears (that the response from the rulers is) good. The rulers understand to remove constitutional monarchy but to determine its definitions and the role of rulers in the system," the Prime Minister and Umno president told newsmen after chairing the party supreme council meeting here.

Asked if this meeting that no further action would be taken by the party, Dr Mahathir said: "As far as we know, that was the only thing we want to do."

9/3/1991 (STAR, 10/3/1991)

KUALA LUMPUR: Umno will challenge any move by the Sabah State Assembly to expel Tun Datu Mustapha Datu Harun as Usukan state assemblyman.

Party president Dato' Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today the party would take the PBS-dominated state assembly to court if it expel him as the state assemblyman for Usukan, they can do so.

"But if they do, we will face them in court as we will seek an interpretation of the laws.

"We feel he has not violated the state constitution because he contested in Usukan under the Barisan Nasional banner and is still in the BN," he told newsmen after chairing the Umno supreme council meeting at the party headquarters here.

It was reported on Tuesday that Sabah Speaker Dato' Haji Hassan Alban Sandukong intended to call for a special sitting of the state assembly to determine Tun Datu Mustapha's position in the state assembly.

Dato' Haji Hassan Alban Sandukong was also quoted as saying that the state assembly had written to Tun Datu Mustapha seeking clarification on whether he had joined Umno.

"We will act based on the newspaper and television reports," he was quoted to have said.

On Feb 23, Umno passed Tun Mustapha's application to join the party and in the same day he handed in his resignation letter as Usno president.

However, 11 other Usno state assemblymen have been told to stay put although they have expressed their intention to join Umno.

12/3/1991 (STAR, 13/3/1991)

KOTA KINABALU: Sabah Umno is prepared to face a by-election in Usukan if Tun Datu Mustapha Harun forced to vacate the state seat, Umno Secretary-general Dato' Mohamed Rahmat said today.

But the party would first seek legal advice on the interpretation of the provision in the state constitution which barred assemblymen from switching parties, Dato' Mohamed told a Press conference here.

Under Article 18(2)(d) of the state constitution, any assemblyman who quits his party will have to vacate his seat to make way for a by-election.

The state assembly is scheduled to sit on March 25 to decide on the position of Tun Mustapha who quit Usno and joined Umno last month.

Assembly secretary Dato' Francis Yap said a letter had been sent to Tun Mustapha and the Usno Secretary-general seeking an explanation on Tun Mustapha's position.

The letter was sent last Thursday and the assembly had yet to receive a reply," he said.

Tun Mustapha, who was also present, said he was not appointed but elected by the people.

"I respect the state constitution but I strongly oppose the injustice in such a provision which is contrary to the principles of democracy," he said.

Umno president Dato' Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad has said the matter would be taken to court.

Dato' Mohamed, who present certificates of appointment to 20 pro tem division leaders yesterday, said Umno leaders had decided yesterday, said Umno leaders had decided that except for Tun Mustapha, 11 other Usno leaders would remain in Usno and complete their term as assemblymen.

Two days ago, the 11 said they had applied to join Umno but former Usno deputy president Tan Sri Sakaran Dandai told the their applications would only a determined after Tun Mustapha's fate as assemblymen was known Dato' Mohamad also said he had held discussions with the 20 appointed division heads and was pleased with the positive response from them.

"The appointments were well-received by Umno supporters in Sabah," he said.

13/3/1991 (NST, 14/3/1991)

PETALING JAYA, Wed.- Malays should discard their inferiority complex in order to progress like the other communities, Umno vice-president Dato' Abdullah Haji Ahmad Badawi said last night.

"They must believe that they can match the others in whatever they do," he added.

Speaking at a gathering in Taman Indah Jaya here, Dato' Abdullah urged the Malays to be resilient and have the will to success.

"They must also make full use of the opportunities and facilities made available to them," he said, adding that history had shown that with quality opportunities, the community could also excel.

13/3/1991 (NST, 14/3/1991)

KUALA LUMPUR: Dato' Paduka Daim Zainuddin says his services to the nation will be available even after his retirement as Finance Minister.

He said retirement does not mean stopping his contributions to the nation.

As the treasurer of Umno, Dato' Paduka Daim said he will be the custodian of the party's finances. He explained, however, that Umno has no business.

"All party assets are with the Official Assignee. Renong is not owned by Umno. As Umno treasurer, I have nothing to do with Renong. It is only the people's assumption and impression that Umno is in control of Renong."

He admits that there is a perception that Umno is involved in business but stresses that it is not right and "totally groundless".

He said that party has no shared at the moment. The Official Assignee took over the assets and liabilities of Umno following it being declared unlawful by the Kuala Lumpur High Court. In fact, all that shares have been sold, he added.

On the perception that the shares were bought by those connected to the party, Dato' Daim said: "It does not matter. The fact remains that Umno has no interests (in companies)."

But he said: "Umno has instructed its solicitors to file a claim in the courts for PWTC building following amendments to the Societies Act (which allows a society, which can prove 51 per cent of its members are members of a previous organisation declared unlawful, to file a claim on the assets).

"If we can prove that more than 51 percent of Umno Baru members of the previous Umno, then the assets of Umno will go to Umno Baru."

The outgoing Finance Minister, expressing his personal view, said Umno should not be involved in business and that a clear line needs to be drawn. "Because that party forms the Government, the party should not be involved in business," he added.

21/3/1992 (NST, 22/3/1991)

KOTA KINABALU: Umno will leave it to Tun Datu Mustapha Datu Harun to decide whether or not to challenge in court the State Legislative Assembly's decision to declare the Usukan State seat vacant.

But Umno deputy president Encik Ghafar Baba, who is the chairman of Sabah Umno Liaison Committee, said it was most likely that the former Usno president who joined Umno last month would bring the matter court.

"Win or lose, it does not matter....what is important is that we want the people to know the existence of undemocratic law in Sabah introduced by the PBS," Encik Ghafar told a Press conference at the end of his one-day visit here.

The State Legislative Assembly declared the Usukan seat vacant last Tuesday after being notified in writing by Usno Secretary-general Askalani Abdul Rahim that Tun Mustapha has resigned from the party.

The move was taken in line with Articles 18(2)(d) of the State Constitution which provides for an Assemblyman to be automatically disqualified as a member of the state Assembly if he or she resigns or ceases to be a member of the political party under which banner the seat he won.

Encik Ghafar said it was the democratic right of an individual to choose which party he or she wanted to join.

The declaration may result in a by-election in the constituency. Encik Ghafar said Umno would only decide on its candidate after **"everything has been cleared"**.

Asked if Tun Mustapha would be considered to defend the seat, Encik Ghafar, who is Deputy Prime Minister, said it was up to Umno Supreme Council to decide.

Tun Mustapha, who was also present at the Press conference, said he had sent a letter to the Assembly Speaker to inform him that he had no intention to quit as Usukan Assemblyman although he had left Usno to join Umno.

Tun Mustapha said he would only decide whether to bring the matter to court after receiving the Speaker's reply to his letter.

24/3/1991 (STAR, 25/3/1991)

KOTA KINABALU: Sabah Umno information chief Nilwan Kabang said today that the Barisan Nasional will easily retain the Usukan seat now that the Bumiputeras are united under Umno.

He said many of those who opposed Usno in the last state election had joined Umno, giving the Barisan an easier task of retaining the seat.

Encik Nilwan said local leaders such as Dato' Ismail Gimbad, Dato' Ashkar Hasbollah and Encik Raskhan Asing who opposed Usno to support Berjaya of PBS were now with Umno.

"Now that they have joined Umno, I don't think we will face any problem retaining the Usukan seat," he said, adding that even Puan Saidatul Badruh, the daughter of the Yang di-Pertua Negeri, was now in Umno's pro tem division committee.

Encik Nilwan said the Bajaus and other Muslims who formed the majority in Usukan would vote for an Umno candidate.

In the last state elections, Tun Mustapha, who is now the Sabah Umno liaison committee deputy chief, won the Bajau-dominated seat with a majority of 2,657 votes in a seven-cornered fight.

Tun Mustapha has yet to announce his decision to recontest the seat which the state assembly declared vacant on March 19 after Usno confirmed his resignation from the party to join Umno.

The Election Commission is due to issue a writ on the nomination and by-election dates this week.

Encik Nilwan said the decision on the Umno candidate would be made by the Umno Supreme Council and Sabah Umno "was prepared for the Usukan seat even if a by-election was held now."

"We will plan our strategy depending on who contests the seat," he said.

Yesterday, several Sabah Umno leaders, including Land and Co-operative Development Minister Tan Sri Sakaran Dandai visited fire victims in Kota Belud which is in the Usukan constituency.

27/3/1991 (STAR, 28/3/1991)

KOTA BARU: Sungai Pinang Assemblyman Haji Nordin Salleh resigned from Semangat 46 today and claimed that he never left Umno.

"I have never left Umno. Semangat is just another platform of (the old) UMNO," he told reporters at his house here.

He said Umno was, in every aspect, truly the backbone of the Government and nation.

Haji Nordin, a first-term assemblyman and committee member of the Tumpat division, was to have announced his resignation at a Press conference yesterday but had put it off after reading a report on the proposed law to prevent party-hopping.

He denied today that he had been "afraid" of the proposed introduction of a law requiring an assemblyman to vacate his seat if he joins another party.

"I am not scared. I am willing to seek re-election should my seat be declared vacant," he said.

He said Semangat could not be strong so long as it was involved with Gagasan Rakyat which comprised parties of diverse background and ideologies.

Haji Nordin said Kelantan would suffer unless it returned to the mainstream of national social, economic and political activities.

On the proposed anti-party hopping law, he said it was negative move which contravened democracy and political freedom.

28/3/1991 (STAR, 29/3/1991)

KOTA BARU: Kelantan Umno will team up with its Terengganu counterpart, party president Dato' Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today.

All of Kelantan Umno's 13 division would be "adopted" by Terengganu's Umno liaison committees, the Prime Minister said.

He also said a joint Kelantan-Terengganu Umno committee would be set up to co-ordinate party activities between them.

At the same time, he said the 13 party divisions in Kelantan would form "special relationships" with other state Umno committees.

The link-up comprises Bachok and Kuala Krai divisions with Johor; Pasir Putih and Pengkalan Chepa with Terengganu; Gua Musang-Negeri Sembilan; Nilam Puri-Selangor; Tumpat-Kedah; Rantau-Panjang-Perak; Kota Baru-Federal Territory; Kok Lanas-Pahang; Machang-Penang; Tanah Merah-Malacca and Pasir Mas-Perlis.

This (link-up) will foster co-operation and facilitate party programmes between Kelantan and other states," Dr Mahathir told a news conference at the state Umno building here after chairing his first meeting as head of the Kelantan liaison committee.

He said the committee also discussed the mass resignation of Semangat 46 leaders and members from the party.

"The question was whether Umno should accept them," he said.

"Umno is willing to accept anyone so long as a Malay who agree with the party policy and its struggle."

Dr Mahathir said former Semangat members should apply to join Umno through the branches and if there was any problem, then the supreme council would decide.

To a question, he said no special treatment or incentive would be given to these people. "All will go through the normal process. Umno has a place for everyone."

Dr Mahathir also said there might be changes to the state Umno committee, including changes in the post of the secretary. No decisions have been made yet.

So far, he had appointed only Haji Annuar Musa as Kelantan Umno deputy chief.

He and other state party leaders later broke fast at Haji Annuar's residence in Bukit Marak.

29/3/1991 (NST, 30/3/1991)

KOTA BARU: The 13 Umno divisions in Kelantan will receive manpower and financial support from the various state Umno under the special relations scheme aimed at strengthening the party.

The programme which allows a division to establish special relations with a State Umno Kelantan chairman Dato' Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad after chairing the State liaison committee here yesterday.

Former Menteri Besar and Tanah Merah Umno division head Tan Sri Haji Mohamed Yaacob said the programme would allow State Umno to provide every assistance possible to help the divisions here.

"The assistance provided could include giving financial support, exchange of leaders programme, training and others," he added.

Tan Sri Mohamed said he would contact the Malacca Umno liaison chief Tan Sri Rahim Tamby Chik to discuss matter further after it was announced that his Tanah Merah division would have a special relations with Malacca Umno.

Machang Umno division chief Haji Mustapha Yaakub said he would consult with Penang Umno chief Dato' Seri Anwar Ibrahim in ways to establish a close relations between them.

According to him, the division officials would visit Penang Umno to study the activities carried out by the divisions there before carrying out its own activity.

Pasir Mas deputy Umno pro-tem committee chairman Haji Mohamad Hassan Ismail thanked the party president for the efforts made to assist and further strengthen Umno in the State.

"Pasir Mas will have special relations with Perlis which is good for our morale besides helping to ensure a smooth party administration," he said.

"Besides helping one other in conducting activities, there could be information exchange," he said.

31/3/1991 (STAR, 1/4/1991)

KUALA LUMPUR, Sun.- Former Semangat 46 Youth Chief Haji Ibrahim Ali today called on party president Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah and other party leaders to rejoin Umno for sake of Malay unity.

"Whether we want to or not, we have to accept that the present Umno is the only one and true Umno.

"And I have met many people in Kelantan whose hopes are to return to Umno. I hope he will one day, he told newsmen at his home here.

Haji Ibrahim, who is MP for Pasir Mas, said he rejoined Umno because only through the party could be best serve the interest of Malays.

He said Semangat was no longer effective politically because it had failed to achieve its goal of reviving the old Umno through all the avenues available.

"As a leader, I have a moral responsibility to my constituents advised me to join a party which can best serve the Malay interest.

"Many may question my integrity and dignity for returning to Umno but what is there in dignity and integrity when one cannot serve the people effectively, when they are left out of the mainstream of development.

"I fear this is what Kelantan will face if Semangat leaders do not return to the Umno fold. And I believe my action in returning to Umno is a credible and responsible action," he added.

Haji Ibrahim and three others, including Sungai Pinang assemblyman Nordin Salleh, were accepted as Umno members by the supreme council yesterday.

He pledged to do everything possible to ensure that the Federal Government did not leave the Kelantan people from the mainstream of development.

"It is time to look ahead, toward enhancing the prestige and performance of the Malays now the NEP has ended while there were many challenges that lie ahead."

Haji Ibrahim, who now a member of the Becah Durin Umno branch, expects many more Semangat leaders and members in Kelantan to return to Umno.

He said Semangat's future was bleak and only the stature and respect for Tengku Razaleigh were holding the party together.

"Apart from Kelantan, Semangat has no support. And in Kelantan, only Tengku Razaleigh is keeping it together.

The Pas-Semangat relationship in Kelantan is one where Semangat is dependent on Pas in the state administration. It is not one of equal partnership," he said.

He added that the situation was deteriorating to a point that both sides were unable to resolve all issues.

Haji Ibrahim said his return to Umno was unconditional and without any special privileges.

He thanked Umno president Dato' Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad and the supreme council for accepting him back into the party.

31/3/1991 (NST. 1/4/1991)

KOTA BARU, Sun.- Sungai Pinang State Assemblyman Haji Nordin Salleh, who resumed duties under the Umno banner today with possibility of being removed from office by next month, is preparing his supporters for by-election.

He said although Umno's potential candidate has not been determined for the by-election, he would still be giving his full support to whoever is chosen.

"I feel privileged and honoured when my application to join Umno received immediate attention by the Umno Supreme Council.

"Their trust and confidence would inspire me to work doubly hard and I would not let them down," Haji Nordin told the NST today.

Min

Haji Nordin who quit Semangat 46 last Wednesday may be stripped of office when Kelantan Government adopts the provision against Assemblymen switching parties.

Deputy Menteri Besar Haji Abdul Rahman said the bill of provision which automatically declares a seat vacant if an Assemblyman across, will be tabled during the next State Assembly sitting on Apr 23.

He also said that the provision would be backdated and possibly to the day the new Government was formed.

Haji Nordin said he would support anyone the Umno leadership choose to contest in the event of a by-election and if the leadership trusted him to re-contest, he would try his best not to let Umno down.

Sungai Pinang is in the Tumpat Parliamentary constituency and Umno Tumpat division chief Haji Mansor Salleh has also give his assurance that he would support whom the party leadership choose to contest in the by-election.

In the October election, Haji Nordin, a first-term Assemblyman won the Sungai Pinang seat with a 7,458 majority beating Haji Mansor and the independent candidate.

Sungai Pinang has 15,632 registered voters. Former acting Semangat 46 Tumpat division chief Azmi Ali also expressed his confidence of Umno winning the seat if a by-election was held.

He said the resignation of several branch leaders from the Sungai Pinang constitution who would soon re-join Umno would be a deciding factor for Umno's victory.

31/3/1991 (NST, 1/4/1991)

KOTA BARU, Sun.- Umno is eager to contest a by-election in Kelantan to gauge its strength and influence in the State, Youth and Sports Minister Haji Annuar Musa said today.

Many by-elections could be expected in Kelantan, he told reporters after meeting information officers here.

He was commenting on the Kelantan Government's move to amend State laws so that any State assemblyman who quits the party under whose banner he had contested will be deemed to vacated the seat.

Haji Annuar, who is Kelantan Umno deputy liaison chief, described the proposed laws undemocratic.

He also said the fact that many Parti Semangat 46 members were quieting the party to join Umno proved they had lost confidence in Semangat 46.

If the exodus continued, ceremonies for the handling over of Umno membership forms might be held after Hari Raya, he added.

Haji Annuar said if necessary a committee would be set up to co-ordinate with Umno divisions to ensure an orderly entry of Semangat 46 members into the party.- BERNAMA

1/4/1991 (STAR, 2/4/1991)

KUALA LUMPUR, Mon.- Umno vice-president Dato' Abdullah Ahmad Badawi has described the move by the Pas-led Kelantan Government to introduce laws to prevent assemblymen from switching parties as "a sign of panic."

"It shows that the government is aware more Semangat assemblymen will be leaving the party.

"It is also reflective of the decreasing influence they are experiencing in Kelantan," said Dato' Abdullah after receiving Asean envoys at Wisma Putra.

Meanwhile, the DAP has called for a law to prohibit "party-hopping" among Members of Parliament.

DAP secretary-general Lim Kit Siang said that such a law would not be undemocratic as had been claimed by Umno leaders.

"It will protect the spirit and practice of democracy by ensuring that elected representatives do not make cynical, unscrupulous and dishonest use of the electorate to hop from one party to another party for personal gain.

"It will also ensure a higher standard of public honesty and integrity in our political life," he said.

1/4/1991 (STAR, 2/4/1991)

SEREMBAN, Mon.- Umno branches and divisions have warned not to prevent Semangat 46 members from rejoining the party.

Party secretary-general Dato' Mohamed Rahmat said today some branches and divisions were rejecting membership forms of Semangat members.

"There are various reasons for this. Among them are personal differences and heated statements made by the Semangat members during the last general election," he said.

"But I would like to warn these branches and divisions to stop such practices.

"The supreme council has made a decision to adopt an open-door policy and grassroots leaders should adhere to this decision."

Dato' Mohamed, who is Information Minister, was speaking to reporters after calling on Menteri Besar Dato' Haji Mohamed Isa Samad.

He said if the branches and divisions continued to be stubborn, the party headquarters would directly accept the applications from Semangat members.

"We will then forced the branches and divisions to accept these members, Dato' Mohamed said.

He said another Semangat leader will soon rejoin Umno. But he declined to name him as **"this will spoil the negotiations."**

He confirmed that about 26,000 Semangat members in Kelantan were about to rejoin Umno.

"It may be more because we are issuing thousands of forms a month but then it is difficult to ascertain if they are actually Semangat members because Semangat does not keep an actual record of its membership," he said.

Dato' Mohamed later accepted 163 forms from members of the Felda Sungai Lui Semangat branch to rejoin Umno.

1/4/1991 (STAR, 2/4/1991)

KOTA BARU, Mon.- Some former Kelantan Semangat leaders have formed a committee to co-ordinate an anticipated exodus of party members to Umno.

Committee chairman Yaakub Muhammad said today arrangements were being made for the mass resignations and presentation of Umno membership forms to either the Prime Minister or is deputy.

"We are compiling a list of Semangat members wishing return to Umno," he said, adding that the handing-over of membership forms could be held here after Hari Raya.

Encik Yaakub, the former state Semangat information chief and Machang division head claimed that some 40,000 members from 700 branches in Kelantan were keen to rejoin Umno.

He himself has yet to sign up and would probably join those who did so.

Three Semangat assemblymen, and possibly up to three MPs, are expected to resign from the party.

1/4/1991 (NST, 2/4/1991)

KUALA LUMPUR, Mon.- Kelantan Umno is looking into possibility of establishing a committee to process and co-ordinate the entry of the state's Semangat 46 members and supporters into Umno.

The deputy Information chief of Umno Kelantan, Senator Haji Annuar Musa said he will discuss the establishment of the committee with Umno president Dato' Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, who is also the chairman of the Kelantan Umno Liaison committee.

Senator Annuar said the objective of the committee was to facilitate the smooth and efficient of entry of Semangat 46 members and supporters into Umno.

1/4/1991 (NST, 2/4/1991)

KOTA BARU, Mon.- Former Kelantan Semangat 46 members, who are keen to join Umno, are advised to apply to the party branches nearest their homes.

Umno Machang division Haji Mustapha Yaakub said under the normal procedure all applications would be cleared by the branches before they are submitted to the respective divisions and later to the party's supreme council.

He gave this advice in response to more Semangat members who are indicated their interest in joining the party.

"Confusion might arise, if those who are from another division decide to apply to join Umno with this division," he added.

However, he assured that all applications would be sent to the party's headquarters for approval.

Former Menteri Besar Tan Sri Haji Mohamed Yaacob, who is also Tanah Merah division chief, said his division would accept applications from Semangat members.

"They are welcome to apply to join this party as long as they agree with our policies."

2/4/1991 (STAR, 3/4/1991)

KUANTAN, Tues.- Several Umno divisions in Pahang have proposed the creation of at least four new parliamentary and 15 State

constituencies in the re-delineation exercise to be carried out by the Election Commission next year.

The proposals by the divisions, which met separately recently, will be submitted to the state Umno liaison committee for consideration.

State Umno Secretary and Deputy Menteri Besar Dato' Haji Abdul Jabar Haji Ibrahim confirmed today that some proposals had been received and they would be studied carefully by the liaison committee before being forwarded to the Election Commission.

Pahang has 10 parliamentary and 33 state seats delineated in 1982.

Divisions in Bentong, Temerloh and Mentakab have yet to hold their meetings.

Party sources said the proposed parliamentary area were tentatively identified as Tanah Rata, Bera, Pulau Tawar and Paya Besar.

Thirteen of the 15 proposed state seats were named as Brinchang, Ringlet, Paya Bungor, Penor, Mendi, Guai, Gelanggi, Sabai, Paching, Muadzam Shah, Tebing Tinggi, Segar and Awah.

The two others are expected to be proposed for Temerloh with the splitting of this parliamentary area to create the proposed new Bera parliamentary constituency.

2/4/1991 (STAR, 3/4/1991)

KUALA LUMPUR, Tues.- The enthusiastic response from Semangat 46 members to join Umno has given Kelantan Umno deputy chief Haji Annuar Musa sleepless nights.

The sudden turn of events may be welcomed by the party but for the Youth and Sports Minister, it is a headache.

"I foresee a repeat of what happen in Johor Baru when Dato' Shahrir returned to Umno. The difference in Kelantan is that the problem will be on a much bigger scale," said one source.

He added that those at grassroots had already shown their disgust at certain Semangat leaders who, they said, went overboard in attacking Umno and BN during the last general election.

"The Umno members do not want the party leadership to go out of its way to invite those from Semangat. This is because they can still recall the fouls language hurled at the leadership by these very same people.

"It is our hope that party president Dato' Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad listen to our grouses. I am confident they will be accepted as Dr Mahathir is a forgiving and sympathetic man," said another sources.

Their sentiments can be seen from criticism following the return of former Semangat Youth chief Haji Ibrahim Ali. He was attacked for joining Umno a few days ago.

This prompted Umno secretary-general Dato' Mohamed Rahmat to warn Umno divisions and branches yesterday against preventing Semangat members from joining Umno.

Dato' Mohamed said divisions and branches were rejecting membership forms from Semangat members.

According to another sources, this had delayed the entry of several Semangat leaders.

The sources said: "Semangat leaders want the situation to simmer down before rejoining Umno. Joining Umno at this juncture will only make matters worse. They want to do it right.

2/4/1991 (NST, 3/4/1991)

KOTA BARU, Tues.- The Federal Government has created new posts for 2,463 Quran teachers and other religious personnel whose services have been terminated by the Pas-led state government.

Youth and Sports Minister Senator Haji Annuar Musa, Kelantan's Federal representative, said today the various appointments were backdated to to Jan 2 this year.

He said the 2,463 were among more than 3,000 people identified in a recent Umno survey as having been victimized by the present state government.

The others include regular teachers and civil servants.

Haji Annuar said steps were being taken to help the other "victim," and urged the state government to stop victimizing anyone on political grounds.

He also said that the people of Pasir Mas and Sungai Pinang would benefit now that their MP Haji Ibrahim Ali and assemblyman Haji Nordin Salleh respectively had joined Umno. "They can expect to see more federal aid and project."

2/4/1991 (NST, 3/4/1991)

KUALA LUMPUR, Tues.- Umno will accept all the Malays, including Semangat 46 and Pas officials as members, but would not tolerate those who wanted to destroy the party from within.

Its Youth chief Dato' Seri Najib Tun Razak said today there was no question of the party not accepting former Semangat 46 and Pas officials as its members.

"But once they join our ranks, they have to toe the party line," he said.

He added that Umno had set up a management committee headed by deputy president Ghafar Baba to look into all applications by former Semangat 46 and Pas members.

Dato' Seri Najib was asked how certain was Umno that all former Semangat and Pas members who joined its ranks did not have intentions of destroying the party from within.

He said he was more worried whether Umno members at division and branch levels would accommodate those who had previously condemned and attacked the party.

Referring to former Semangat 46 Youth chief Ibrahim Ali and other ex-Kelantan Semangat 46 leaders who had joined Umno, Dato' Seri Najib said:

"Initially, there were reservations among party grassroots about their entry into Umno.

"However, with Dato' Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad leading the State Umno, I believe there are no problem."

3/4/1991 (STAR, 4/4/1991)

KUALA LUMPUR, Wed.- The Umno leadership has quietly told party leaders in Kelantan to pacify members who are against the entry of certain Semangat 46 leaders and members into the party.

Sources said the move was necessary to prevent a possible about-turn by "committed" Semangat members who might feel slighted by the poor treatment given to them by Umno branches and divisions.

Many of them had their membership application forms rejected by branches and divisions and grounds that they attacked Umno during the general election campaign.

"Umno members are reminded to put party interests above others. They must not be too selfish to shares with others a everyone has something to offer the party irrespective of their background," said one source.

It is understood that Kelantan Umno deputy chief Haji Annuar Musa has been given the unenviable task of tacking the thorny problem.

"The situation on the ground has become very delicate. The Umno leadership will have to tread cautiously as poor judgement will prove costly.

"It must somehow show Semangat members that they are welcomed while not seeming to ignore the sentiments of the existing members who have had to endure humiliation and criticism," said another source.

Sources said it was feared that some members might cross over to Semangat should they be disillusioned by the decisions taken by the party leadership.

Sources also reminded the Umno leaderships not to "expect too much, too soon" from Kelantan.

This was because Semangat members generally still regard highly of their party president Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah, they said.

5/4/1991 (NST. 6/4/1991)

KUALA LUMPUR, Fri.- Semangat 46 has filed an objection to the new Umno's bid to take over the assets of the de-registered Umno now held in trust by the Official Assignee.

Party secretary-general Dato' Haji Suhaimi Kamaruddin said today that he had sent a letter to the Official Assignee yesterday objecting to the application which he believed had been filed last month.

He said the objections was based on Section 17B of the Societies Act 1966 which stipulated two conditions for any new society to take over the assets of a defunct one.

"The two conditions under this section are that the constitution of the new society must be the same as the de-registered one and that at least 50 per cent of the members must have joined the new society.

"In the case of the new Umno, we feel that it does not meet the first condition as its constitution has several material differences with that of the old Umno," Dato Suhaimi said.

"We are also questioning its claim that it has more than 50 per cent of old Umno members, he added.

Dato' Haji Suhaimi told a Press conference that among their **"material differences"** in the new Umno constitution were:

#the previous of **"subsidy votes"** awarded to presidential candidates who were nominated by divisions; and

#the appointment, instead of election, of the party's youth and wanita leaders.

Dato' Haji Suhaimi said that Semangat 46 had in fact met the first condition because it had adopted the entire constitution of the old Umno except the change in name of the party.

"We had in fact tried to use the name Umno Malaysia but this was rejected by the Registrar of Societies," he said.

He added: "Other than the name, we have used the entire constitution of the old Umno."

However, Dato' Haji Suhaimi declined to say whether Semangat 46 was now claiming it had the required 50 per cent of old Umno members within its ranks.

He also did not want to say if Semangat 46 would file its own application to assume the assets of the old Umno.

The party secretary-general would only say that it was part of the party's strategy to file the objection.

5/4/1991 (STAR, 6/4/1991)

KOTA BELUD, Fri.- The forthcoming Usukan by-election in Sabah will be an important determinant of Umno and the future generation, party deputy president Ghafar Baba said tonight.

In view of this Umno would make adequate preparations to defend the seat irrespective of who is nominated to challenge the Umno candidate, he said.

The Deputy Prime Minister, who is also BN secretary-general, said he was satisfied with the preparations so far by the Usukan Umno pro tem committee for the by-election.

Umno's success in Usukan would be a national success for the party, he told reporters after holding a talks with members of Usukan, Tempasuk and Kadamaian Umno pro-tem committee.

Encik Ghafar said so far the Umno Supreme Council had not made any decision on the candidate.

He gave an assurance that the wishes of the local Umno leaders and members would be conveyed to the relevant authorities.

The Election Commission has fixed April 29 as nomination day for the Usukan by-election and in event of a contest polling will be on May 11.

The local Umno leaders assured Encik Ghafar that they would strive to ensure victory for the Umno candidate.

6/4/1991 (NST, 7/4/1991)

TUMPAT, Sat.- Umno division leaders in Kelantan are empowered to identify projects in their respective areas for funding by the Government, State Umno liaison chief Haji Annuar Musa said.

Previously, only the BN MP Assemblymen were authorized to identify projects for implementation in their respective constituencies.

He said Umno's defeat in the last general election would not prevent it from delivering development to the people. "The party is committed to serving the people despite its election rout," he added when speaking at the Tumpat Umno division breaking of the fast function yesterday.

Towards this end, Haji Annuar, who is also the Youth and Sports Minister has directed all divisional heads to identify suitable projects in this respective areas.

He said all projects would be submitted through him to be passed on the Kelantan Federal Government Department office for implementation.

Haji Annuar added that the Federal Government would allocate sufficient funds to finance the projects.

He also advised all divisional heads to set up service centres to enable the people to seek help with their problems.

Meanwhile, Haji Annuar was confident that Umno would recover from the defeat, particularly with the return of former Semangat 46 leaders and members to the party.

According to him, all Umno divisions and branches should not bar anyone from joining the party.

7/4/1991 (STAR, 8/4/1991)

PASIR MAS, Sun.- Umno hopes to reconsolidate itself in Kelantan by accepting all Semangat 46 members wanting to join the party, state Umno deputy liaison chief Senator Annuar Musa said here last night.

Addressing a breaking of fast gathering organized by the Pasir Mas division, he said Umno must regain its strength in Kelantan for the good of the state and its people.

The BN government in Kelantan was unseated in the general election last October by the Angkatan Perpaduan Ummah coalition of which Pas and Semangat are the main components.

Haji Annuar, who is Youth and Sports Minister, said Kelantan and its people would gain considerably if Semangat president Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah too rejoined Umno.

"If all Semangat members return to Umno's fold, Tengku Razaleigh will have no other choice but to follow suit. He can't lead a party without members or supporters," Haji Annuar said.

He said it was vital that Umno accepted grassroots members of Semangat who sincerely wanted to join the party and not to create problems for Umno later.

Haji Annuar urged Semangat members intending to join Umno to do so through proper channels and not to bypass the branch, division and state liaison committees.

Former Kelantan Menteri Besar Tan Sri Haji Mohamed Yaacob was present.-BERNAMA

7/4/1991 (NST, 8/4/1991)

TUARAN, Sun.- Umno will not field people from Peninsular Malaysia as candidates for all Parliamentary seats and State election in Sabah, party deputy president Encik Ghafar Baba said today.

"Umno's candidates for these contests will only be made of Sabahans," Encik Ghafar said at a meeting with Kemas officials at Kampung Bolong here.

He also assured the people in the State that "Sabahan will not hold the Chief Minister and State Ministerial posts."

Encik Ghafar, who is also the Deputy Prime Minister, said the Federal Government had always wanted to close rapport with the Sabah Government, but the bridge of friendship between Kota Kinabalu and Kuala Lumpur was "burnt" by PBS.

He gave an assurance that the Federal Government would continue to provide development allocations to the State.

Turning Umno's expansion to Sabah, he said the party did not come to **"rob"** Sabah of its wealth, but to unite the people, especially Bumiputeras.

"We want Sabah to have a good working relationship with the central Government and this could be achieved through Umno," he added.

Encik Ghafar is in Sabah on a four-day visit to have a closer feel of the current political environment in the State.

His trip is also seen as part of Umno's preparation for the Usukan by-election. Nomination for the by-election has been fixed for April 29 and in the event of a contest, polling will be May 11.

Later, speaking to reporters after meeting State Umno officials in Kota Kinabalu, he said the Umno leadership would not ignore the views of

Umno Sabah on the selection of the party's candidate for the Usukan by-election.

The party's supreme council will meet soon to decide on the party's choice.

On reports that Tun Mustapha's Kota Belud pro-tem divisional committee wanted him to defend his seat, Encik Ghafar said the party leadership would take into account all suggestion.

"He (Tun Mustapha) is popular and everybody wants him. But whether he wants (to defend the seat) or not I do not know."

Tun Mustapha, who also attended the meeting at the Usia Building, said he would leave the decision to the Umno leadership.

"It is entirely up to the Umno leadership to decide who they want to contest the seat. I will give my fullest support to whoever is chosen," he added.

He stated last week that a younger person should be picked to contest the seat.

The PBS is also expected to decide on the party's candidate soon. Two names, PBS Usukan division head Datuk Haji Salleh Tun Said and former Federal Deputy Minister Datuk Haji Yahya Lampong, have been mentioned as contenders.

However, Datuk Haji Salleh, who is also a nominated Assemblyman, had said he would not accept nomination. He suggested that PBS stay out of the by-election.

8/4/1991 (STAR, 9/4/1991)

KOTA BARU, Mon.- The Kelantan constitution will be amended at the next State Assembly session to disqualify any assemblyman resigning from his party.

The enactment, to be tabled during the April 23-25 sitting, will be backdate to Nov 18, 1990, when assemblymen were sworn in.

The Menteri Besar's press secretary, Haji Hussien Musa, said today the State Executive Council decided to go ahead with the amendment after studying draft copies of the bill today.

It is to be submitted to the State Assembly Speaker in a few days.

Deputy Menteri Besar Haji Abdul Halim Abdul Rahman heads committee to study the proposed provision.

If Kelantan adopted the law, Sungai Pinang assemblyman Haji Nordin Salleh would loose his seat as he quit Semangat 46 for Umno on March 27.

9/4/1991 (NST, 10/4/1991)

ALOR STAR, Tues.- Kedah Semangat 46 Chairman Dato' Zainal Abidin Johari officially announced his resignation from the party today, and immediately advised party president Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah and his supporters to follow suit and return to Umno.

Dato' Zainal Abidin said he would be applying to join the Kampung Berjaya or Sik branch soon.

Announcing his resignation at a Press conference here, Dato' Zainal said he would submit his resignation form to Menteri Besar Dato' Seri Haji Osman Aroff when the latter returned from the performing the *umrah* next week.

His resignation was effective from March 28, the day he submitted his resignation letter to the Semangat 46 headquarters in Kuala Lumpur.

According to him, between 5,000 and 6,000 Semangat members in Sik alone and several thousands more in other districts would quit the party soon.

Dato' Zainal Abidin cited several reasons for his decision to quit the party, the main one being the rejection of the party by voters at the last general election.

He said Semangat 46 was riddled with serious problems which the top leadership had not addressed.

"There are many serious problems such as the conflict in Kelantan, the leadership crisis in Kedah, the conflict between former Semangat 46 leader Marina Yusof and another leader which led Marina to resign, and the problems between Engku Mohsien and Tengku Paduka Raja in Terengganu which the top leadership merely brushed aside," he said.

He said he did not know what the Semangat 46 top leadership regarded as important as they seemed to consider these problems trivial.

In Kuala Terengganu, 43 Semangat 46 youth leaders and members from five branch in Bukit Bading, Hulu Terengganu, resigned from the party yesterday.

They were led by branch co-ordinating vice leader Razali Mamat and two branch leaders, Kamarudin who was head of the Semangat 46 youth northern branch and Abdul Aziz Embung, head of the southern branch and branch co-ordinating committee member Mohd Nasir Ubaidullah.

Also with the group was the committee member of the party's Hulu Terengganu division Rosdiah Ubaidullah.

They later handed their application forms to join Umno to Hulu Terengganu Umno division chief Dato' Haji Ahmad Sidi Ismail.

Encik Razali said Semangat 46 has deviated far from its original struggle.

10/4/1991 (NST. 11/4/1991)

PASIR MAS, Wed.- Another Semangat 46 State Assemblyman Haji Wan Najib Mohamad, has quit the party and applied to join Umno tonight, making him second Assemblyman to quit to do so within two weeks.

The first Semangat 46 Assemblyman to quit the party and joined Umno was Haji Nordin Salleh, 47, who is the Sungai Pinang Assemblyman. He quit the party on March 27.

Haji Wan Najib's decision to join Umno will now increase the two party's seats in the Kelantan State Assembly.

Umno's sole Parliamentary seat in the State was gained when the Pasir Mas MP, Haji Ibrahim Ali, left Semangat 46 on March 22 to join the party.

Haji Wan Najib made the decision despite the possibility of losing his seat if the State government decided to pass a Bill to prevent party-switching among State Assemblymen.

Haji Wan Najib said he did so in realization that the *rakyat* was more important than himself.

In the simple ceremony here tonight, Haji Wan Najib, who is the Limbongan State Assemblyman, handed an Umno membership application form to the party's secretary-general Dato' Mohamed Rahmat.

Haji Wan Najib said he has to quit the party because he believed that the struggle of Semangat 46 ended after the last general election.

He has been a loyal supporters of Semangat 46 president Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah for the past 13 years.

Haji Wan Najib hoped Tengku Razaleigh would realize that continuing the party's struggle would mean "insisting on disunity among the Malays."

He also said that despite Semangat 46 victory in Kelantan, Tengku Razaleigh had himself admitted that the State belonged to Pas.

"Pas has taken the cue and carried out the state's administration for Semangat 46, he added.

He said that after observing the situation in the State and realizing that the Semangat 46 struggle had come to the end, it was only proper that he left the party and joined Umno which had been accepted as the only party which enjoyed the trust of Malays.

In Semangat 46, he was the Pasir Putih divisional head.

Haji Wan Najib became an Umno member in 1965 and began holding various posts in the Umno Pasir Putih division from 1977 until he joined Semangat 46.

He had served as an Umno Assemblyman in the Limbongan seat from 1978 to 1986.

10/4/1991 (NST, 11/4/1991)

PASIR MAS, Wed.- Umno will consider asking former Semangat 46 in Kelantan who join Umno to recontest their seats if they are made to vacate them, party secretary-general Dato' Mohamed Rahmat said.

He said Umno would take into consideration the needs of the people in the affected constituencies and if these Assemblyman received their support, then the party saw no reason why they should not be allowed to recontest.

Dato' Mohamed was speaking to reporters after receiving a membership application from Semangat 46 State Assemblyman for Limbongan, Haji Wan Najib Wan Mohamad.

Dato' Mohamad said Umno was prepared to face any by-election in the State if the Pas Government decided to adopt a Bill preventing Assemblyman from switching parties.

"The law is bad law, and it shows that the State Pas leaders are actually afraid that their Assemblyman will join Umno," he added.

Dato' Mohamad said the people would question the intention of the State Government to adopt such a law.

In this regard, he expected many to realize that the law proved that Pas and Semangat 46 had to lose their grip in the State.

"The people will then turn back to Umno as the only party which had continuously struggle for the Malays.

"Don't be surprised if Semangat 46 will, in the near future, be left only with its leaders without any supporters, he added.

Dato' Mohamed said Umno, which now had two state seats in Kelantan in the Limbongan and Sungai Pinang constituencies, could lose then if the State Government tabled the Bill against party hopping in the next State Assembly sitting on April 23.

The Semangat 46 Assemblyman for Sungai Pinang, Haji Nordin Salleh, quit the party and joined Umno on March 27.

Dato' Mohamed also urged Semangat 46 members to leave the party which he said should accept that Umno has earned the trusts of the Malays as proven in the last general election.

"We in Umno have decided to accept him....and we are sincere in our open door policy - to accept any application from Malays in the country and not only limited to Semangat 46 or pas members," he said.

11/4/1991 (STAR, 12/4/1991)

KUALA LUMPUR, Thurs.- Limbongan Assemblyman Haji Wan Najib Wan Mohamed said he will recontest his seat if the Kelantan Assembly approves a law to disqualify members who join another party.

He said today that he would seek a fresh mandate from his constituents and that he was prepared to face them to explain why he quit Semangat 46 to join Umno.

"I have been given an assurance by Umno that I will be picked to recontest the Limbongan seat if I lose my seat under the proposed bill," he said.

He also expressed confidence that the people would support the BN if a by-election was held as the people had lost faith in the Pas-led state government.

He added Semangat supporters and leaders were also unhappy with the way the party had been treated by Pas.

Haji Wan Najib also said he would consider taking legal action against the state government if the bill was adopted.

He said no he had started seeking legal opinion on the proposed Bill, adding that the Attorney-General's chambers should give its views too.

"No one questions the right of the state government to propose the amendments but to have the bill retrospective to Nov 18, 1990, is highly questionable and undemocratic," he said.

Haji Wan Najib, the former Semangat Pasir Putih division head, quit the party last night to rejoin Umno. He was the second assemblyman to do so within two weeks.

With Haji Wan Najib's decision to join Umno, the party now has two seats in the Kelantan Assembly.

Umno's sole parliamentary seat in the state was gained when Pasir Mas MP Haji Ibrahim Ali left Semangat on March 22 to join the party.

Haji Wan Najib had said he quit Semangat because he believed that the struggle of Semangat ended after the October general election.

Haji Wan Najib urged the other 12 remaining Semangat assemblymen in Kelantan today to join Umno.

11/4/1991 (STAR, 12/4/1991)

KUALA LUMPUR, Thurs.- The BN candidate for the Usukan by-election will be from Sabah Umno, party deputy president Abdul Ghafar Baba said today.

Encik Ghafar, who is also Sabah Umno chairman, said only the name of the candidate had yet to be finalized.

"The name of the BN candidate will only be made known just before nomination day (April 29).

"What is more important to us is to ensure that the BN will capture the seat last held by Usno," Deputy Prime Minister told reporters after launching a photography contest here.

If there is a contest, polling will be on May 11. The Usukan seat was held by Tun Datu Mustapha Datu Harun until it was declared vacant after he quit Usno to join Umno.

Tun Datu Mustapha, now Sabah Umno deputy chairman, is the favourite choice to represent the BN.

Encik Ghafar also said he was not aware that PBS was reportedly not keen on contesting the seat.

KOTA BARU, Fri.- Semangat 46 has not given up hope of reviving the old Umno, party president Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah said.

He added that the party would continue its efforts to restore the original Umno despite the setback in the last general election.

"Give us another five years," he said after breaking fast with the state Semangat leaders and members at the Menteri Besar's official residence last night.

"We want to get back into the old Umno. Having failed in the last general election, we will succeed in the next."

Tengku Razaleigh dismissed speculation that the exodus of Semangat members to rejoin Umno was a ploy preceding his return to the party.

He said the present Umno was Dr Mahathir's party. "Rather than joining his party, it's better to be with my party."

He said Semangat would object to the present Umno taking over the old Umno's assets because it was confident of reviving the old Umno.

He also said Semangat had set up a disciplinary committee under its three vice-presidents to monitor and deal with those who worked against the party.

Tengku Razaleigh alleged that "manipulators" in Kuala Lumpur were using Semangat dissidents to create first and destroy the party.

On the Bayu state by-election in Kedah, he said Semangat has agreed to let Pas contest the seat as **"we are not prepared and not very strong there."**

Pas has a better chance and Semangat would give its full support, added Tengku Razaleigh.

12/4/1991 (STAR, 13/4/1991)

ALOR STAR, Fri.- Kelantan Semangat 46 assemblymen who quit the party to join Umno can recontest their seats as BN candidates if the state approves a law to disqualify those who switch parties, Dato' Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today.

The Prime Minister confirmed that Limbungan Assemblyman Haji Wan Najid Mohamad, who has rejoined Umno, could re-contest if his seat was declared vacant.

"We will consider and let them (Semangat assemblymen) re-contest their seats if they join Umno.

"We are not greedy. We have no intention of grabbing everything for ourselves," Dr Mahathir told newsmen at the Sultan Abdul Halim Airport here. This means that Sungai Pinang Assemblyman Haji Nordin Salleh, who was the first to quit Semangat to join Umno on March 27, will also be fielded again as the BN candidate should the law come into effect.

The Prime Minister said this in response to the Kelantan Government' intention to table an amendment to the state constitutional the April 23-25 sitting of the state assembly to disqualify members who resign.

Dr Mahathir, who is Kelantan Umno liaison committee head, said it was the Kelantan Government's right to amend the state constitution.

KOTA KINABALU, Fri.- Former Chief Minister Datuk Harris Salleh, along with the some Berjaya colleagues, applied to join Umno and challenged PBS leaders to a public debate on issues such as corruption.

Datuk Harris said the PBS leaders talked about Kuala Lumpur trying to colonise Sabah and had asked the people to fight for freedom when they faced problem.

"What we should fight against are corruption and the misdeeds of PBS leaders.

"I've challenges PBS leaders before, and I'am challenging them again to a public debate anywhere in Sabah on the issues raised by them."

Datuk Harris, who founded Berjaya in 1975 and toppled Tun Datu Mustapha Usno-led government the following year, said Umno was the only party that could rebuild the bridge between Kuala and Kota Kinabalu.

Last night, 41 Berjaya members held an EGM and Datuk Harris said that more than half of them decided to turn Berjaya from a political party to a service-oriented organisation to help the poor and handicapped in Sabah.

Datuk Harris, who was with Berjaya vice-president Paul Wong, treasurer Datuk Yap Pak Leong and member Affendi Tun Fuad Stephen at the press conference, said the party decided that all Bumiputera members should join Umno while non-Bumiputera members should join other BN component parties.

Datuk Harris said he will be joining Labuan Umno as an ordinary member.

14/4/1991 (NST, 15/4/1991)

PETALING JAYA, Sun.- The Kelantan Palace is no longer interfering with political matters in the State but creating opposition leaders are still using the Sultan's name for their political gain, State Umno deputy liaison chief, Senator Haji Annuar Musa said today.

He said the palace has stopped all political interference after the last general election last year.

"As far as I can see, the Sultan Kelantan no longer interferes in political matters," Senator Annuar, who is also Youth and Sports Minister, told newsmen at the Kuala Lumpur International Airport on arrival from

Malta where the Malaysian delegation made a presentation in its bid to host the 1998 Commonwealth Games.

The Umno general assembly, in early December, unanimously adopted a resolution on the Rulers and the Constitution, urging the party leadership to see the Yang di-pertuan Agong Sultan Azlan Shah to discuss further the role of the rulers under the Constitution.

Prime Minister Dato' Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad handed the Umno resolution to the king on Feb 26.

Senator Annuar also spoke at length on the continuous influx of Semangat 46 members into Umno.

He said other Semangat 46 MP and State Assemblymen would join the party soon.

"Members at both top and grassroot levels will also join Umno because they realize that Semangat 46 is weak," he said.

He said certain MPs and State Assemblymen has reservations on joining Umno as they were afraid of the proposed amendments to the Kelantan State Constitution.

The proposed Bill, which is expected to be tabled at the next State Assembly, seek to declare a seat vacant if an Assemblyman crosses to another party.

There is also a possibility that the provision will be made retrospective to the day the new Government was formed.

Asked whether Umno would consider allowing those who lost the seat to re-contest under the BN ticket when the Bill becomes law, he said: "The decision on this matter lies with the party president."

He said so far the party has not received complaints about application for membership being rejected.

On why the applications of former Semangat youth chief Haji Ibrahim Ali was processed within a few days, Senator Annuar said; "The party constitution has a provision which allows the Supreme Council to process the applications of opposition members who held top party posts in their former parties."

Haji Ibrahim officially joined Umno on March 30.

17/4/1991 (NST, 18/4/1991)

KUALA LUMPUR, Wed.- PBS's decision to contest the Usukan seat will put a further strain on the relationship between itself and the Federal Government, Deputy Prime Minister Abdul Ghafar Baba said.

He said the Government, however, has anticipated the opposition party's move.

Encik Ghafar told reporters at his Hari Raya open house at the PWTC yesterday that Umno was not worried by the PBS challenge.

"Their move (to contest Usukan) is not going to jeopardize Umno's chances (in the by-election) in any way," he added.

17/4/1991 (NST, 18/4/1991)

SEREMBAN, Wed.- Menteri Besar Dato' Haji Mohamed Isa Samad said Dato' Mokhtar Hashim is welcome to rejoin Umno.

"We will find a role for him to play as he was a former leader of the Negeri Sembilan Umno.

"We are thankful to the Federal Government for releasing him and getting him the pardon," he said when asked to comment on Dato' Mokhtar's release.

Dato' Isa, who is the state Umno chief, said he was confident that should Dato' Mokhtar want to enter politics, he would rejoin Umno as his political life had begun with the party.

19/4/1991 (STAR, 20/4/1991)

MALACCA, Fri.- Umno deputy president Ghafar Baba said former Culture, Youth and Sports Minister Dato' Mokhtar Hashim is welcome to rejoin the party.

"There will be no obstacle if he wants to be in Umno," the Deputy Prime Minister said today.

Encik Ghafar said he knew the nothing in the party's constitution to stop Dato' Mokhtar from returning to politics.

He said Dato' Mokhtar's re-entry would not have a negative impact in Umno.

19/4/1991 (STAR, 20/4/1991)

TAMPIN, Fri.- Former Culture, Youth and Sports Minister Dato' Mokhtar Hashim said today he will go through the formalities of rejoining Umno even though for him he never left the party.

"My application to re-join Umno is only a process. To my mind, even while I was in a prison, I have never left Umno.

"Umno is the only institution that promotes a struggle to defend the fate of the people and the country," he told reporters after calling on the Tunku Besar of Tampin for Hari Raya here.

Dato' Mokhtar, who spent the day calling on friends and former colleagues in Tampin, urged Semangat 46 members to rejoin Umno saying that only Umno was capable of defending Malays rights.

"I have always considered Semangat as not in existence," he said.

Dato' Mokhtar, who was once Tampin MP, thanked the people of Tampin and Rembau for their support.

19/4/1991 (STAR, 20/4/1991)

MALACCA, Fri.- Barisan Nasional will announce the name of the Umno candidate for the Usukan by-election on April 27, two days before nomination.

Deputy Prime Minister Abdul Ghafar Baba said today that only Prime Minister Dato' Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad and himself knew who the candidate would be.

Polling is set for May 11.

20/4/1991 (NST, 21/4/1991)

LABUAN, Sat.- Prime Minister Dato' Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today the decision by PBS to vie for the Usukan State seat was part of the democratic process.

"We don't like to restrict people. It is a free country," he said.

"If they want to leave BN they can, they also can," he said during a one-day visit to the island.

The BN will be vying for the Usukan seat through Sabah Umno. The seat was vacated by Usno president Tun Datu Mustapha Datu Harun who has since joined Umno. Nomination is fixed for April 29.

On the recent move by former Sabah Chief Minister Datuk Harris Salleh to join Umno, he said Datuk Harris was very knowledgeable about developments in Labuan and in a position to advise on future projects.

20/4/1991 (STAR, 21/4/1991)

KUALA TERENGGANU, Sat.- Leaders of two Semangat 46 divisions in Terengganu wish to return to Umno, Menteri Besar Tan Sri Haji Wan Mokhtar Ahmad said tonight.

He said the divisional leaders of Hulu Terengganu and Dungun had met Umno leaders from the same divisions to discuss their move.

"We welcome anyone who sincerely wants to be with us," he said after launching a Hari Raya gathering of former students of the Sekolah Menengah Agama Sultan Zainal Abidin here.

20/4/1991 (NST, 21/4/1991)

KOTA BARU, Sat.- Semangat 46 State Assemblymen and MP for Kelantan who defected to Umno say that Semangat 46 State leaders are carrying out a smear campaign against them.

The campaigns, directed at MP for Pasir Mas Haji Ibrahim Ali, Limbongan Assemblyman Haji Wan Najib and Sungai Pinang Assemblyman Haji Nordin Salleh, were very personal attacks.

Haji Ibrahim, who is also former Semangat 46 Youth chief, said when meeting Umno supporters in Ayer Tawar in Pasir Puteh yesterday, the smear campaign carried out by the State leaders since he rejoined Umno on March 22, proved that they feared more party supporters would follow him.

"They claimed that I had made the move the personal gains and I had betrayed Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah's trust on me.

"Last Friday, after prayers at the Pengkalan Chepa mosque, several Semangat 46 supporters burnt my pictures," he said.

Haji Ibrahim said he had never left Umno and after the general election, the people showed that they believed the present Umno was the one continuing with the old Umno's struggle and he had to accept the people's mandate.

"If Semangat 46 leaders could close ranks with the Chinese chauvinistic party like DAP and Pas which had at one time *mengkafirkan* (branded others an infidels) other Malays, there's no reasons why we can't join hands with Umno for the sake of Malay unity," he said.

Haji Wan Najib, who returned into Umno's fold on April 10, said he was also a victim of a smear campaign.

"The campaigners raised three points to belittle my sincere intention in returning to Umno.

"They said I left Semangat 46 because I was not given the State Executive Council post, because I feared my business licence would be withdrawn and I am the brother-in-law of the Public Enterprise Minister Dato' Yusof Noor," he said.

Haji Wan Najib said the campaigners had forgotten that he left because they was no future in Semangat 46 struggle be it on a national platform in Kelantan.

"Semangat 46 is merely existing in Kelantan on Pas' goodwill."

21/4/1991 (STAR, 22/4/1991)

KUALA TERENGGANU, Sun.- The High Court today struck out two petitions which sought to annul the election of Umno division deputy chief Dato' Rashid Mohamad as the MP for Kuala Nerus.

Mr Justice Dato' Haji Ahmad Fairuz Sheikh Abdul Halim made the order after allowing the applications by Semangat 46 vice-president Haji Ibrahim Hassan and voter Ghani Yusof to withdraw the petitions.

Both Haji Ibrahim, the former MP for Kuala Nerus, and Encik Ghani submitted to the court written applications complete with sworn affidavits stating their grounds withdrawal and the withdrawal did not arise from the conclusion.

They were asked to submit the written applications by the judge on March 5.

In their affidavits, Haji Ibrahim and Encik Ghani said they were withdrawing their petitions with the consent of Dato' Rashid.

They also obtained the consent the Election Commission and the Kuala Nerus returning officer who were respectively named as the second and third respondents.

Haji Ibrahim won the Kuala Nerus seat on a BN ticket in the 1986 general election before joining Semangat.

In the last general election, he lost to Dato' Rashid.

21/4/1991 (STAR, 22/4/1991)

KOTA BARU, Sun.- Youths should not become the victims of the game of politics of parties which know only how to criticize but do nothing when in power, Youth and Sports Minister Senator Haji Annuar Musa said today.

He said the problem facing the Ministry in Kelantan was the refusal of the Pas-led State Government to provide land for the construction of centres to train youths in various skills.

The state government may have refused the land out of fear that Umno might regain its influence in Kelantan, he told reporters after opening a leadership seminar in Kota Baru Teachers College (MPKB), Pengkalan Chepa near here.

Senator Annuar said that in spite of the fact that the Federal Government faced this problem, it would continue to carry out its obligations to ensure that Kelantan would not lag behind other states in development.

Senator Annuar said it had allocated \$100 million for the construction of training centres for youths during the next five years and \$20 million of it was for Kelantan.- BERNAMA

21/4/1991 (NST, 22/4/1991)

YAN, Sun.- Umno president Dato' Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad will be briefed on the background of those shortlisted by Kedah Umno to contest in the Bayu by-election.

Menteri Besar Dato' Seri Haji Osman Aroff will brief the Prime Minister in Kuala Lumpur tomorrow.

Dato' Seri Haji Osman is scheduled to return to Kedah on Tuesday and announced the name of the candidate at the Baling Umno building about 10am.

He said the State Umno liaison committee had shortlisted several names from the 20 names received.

"All those, who names were submitted to the States Umno, are capable leaders but we had considered various aspects before short listed a few," said Dato' Seri Haji Osman, who is also the BN's election director for the by-election.

He said the proposal from the Baling Umno division that the candidate should be from its nine committee members would also be forwarded to Dr Mahathir.

"I will brief the Prime Minister and its is up to the party leadership to decide," he said TV3's Sekapur Sirih Aidil Fitri programme which was telecast "live" at the Rumah Budi orphanage here.

It is learnt that among those being considered were Encik Abdul Wahab Din, Syed Omar Syed Noh, Haji Ramli Wa Nok, Haji Azmi Razak, Haji Mat Zanu Teh and Encik Salleh Haji Yaacob.

The May 4 by-election is expected to be straight fight between the BN and Pas.

Pas has said it would contest the seat and would announced its candidate at ceramah in Memali on April 22.

Nomination has been fixed for April 24.

21/4/1991 (NST, 22/4/1991)

ALOR STAR, Sun.- Hundred of Semangat 46 wanita and Youth wing members in Kedah are expected to quit the party tomorrow and apply to join Umno.

Semangat 46 sources said today the Wanita and Youth wing members would announce leaving Semangat 46 in a special gathering at Langgar, about 10km from here.

According to the sources, the members were disillusioned with the fruitless struggles of Semangat 46 and the ability of the party's top leadership to overcome serious problems within the party.

Kedah Semangat 46 chairman Dato' Zainal Abidin Johari had left the party to join Umno early this month.

Meanwhile, Datuk Zainal Abidin and members who leave tomorrow are expected to campaign for the BN candidate in the Bayu by-election.

22/4/1991 (STAR, 23/4/1991)

JOHOR BARU, Mon.- More than 1,000 Semangat 46 members in Johor have rejoined Umno over the past two weeks, former Bakri Semangat division deputy chairman Mustapha Mohamed said today.

He claimed that at least 300 of them had applied to rejoin the Bakri Umno division alone.

Encik Mustapha, who rejoined Umno last month, said more were expected to follow provided local Umno leaders openly accepted them into the party.

"Semangat members have realized that Umno is the only platform for the Malays.

"And we hope that Umno members will not against former Semangat 46 members," he added.

25/4/1991 (STAR, 26/4/1991)

JOHOR BARU, Thurs.- Johor Semangat 46 will be "**paralysed**" because many of its members have rejoined Umno, state Umno chief Tan Sri Haji Muhyiddin Yassin said.

He said he had received reports from all divisions in the state that many Semangat members would rejoining the party.

He urged all Umno branches and divisions to accept their applications.

Speaking at a Hari Raya dinner organized by the Umno division here last night, he said Umno leaders should take advantage of the Syawal month to foster goodwill and co-operation with Semangat members.

Tan Sri Muhyiddin hoped that Johor Umno would regain its stature as the **"backbone"** of the party and be the political fortress of the Malays when all Semangat members in the state return to the party.

"We now have more than 250,000 members. The addition of Semangat members will make Johor Umno the strongest in the country," he said.

Johor Umno Youth chief Raden Basiron Said said more than 500 Semangat members in the Tebrau division, led by division information chief Mohamed Nor Sani, had applied to rejoin Umno.

He said they had submitted their applications on March 13 to enable participation in the branch meetings.

He added that former Semangat 46 youth executive committee member Ustaz Mohamed Din Baharan had also rejoined the Tebrau Umno division.

25/4/1991 (STAR, 26/4/1991)

KOTA BARU, Thurs.- Umno will seek legal advice, including from the Attorney-General's Chambers, on the amendment to the Kelantan Constitution which declares vacant a seat of an assemblyman who quits the party under whose banner he was elected, state Umno deputy chief Haji Annuar Musa said today.

He said the amendment not only contravened the Federal Constitution but also curbed political freedom.-BERNAMA

25/6/1991 (NST, 26/4/1991)

KUALA LUMPUR, Thurs.- Umno president Dato' Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad has taken over the chairmanship of the Kelantan Barisan Nasional liaison committee following its revival and restructuring.

Senator Haji Annuar Musa is now the deputy chairman. The Youth and Sports Minister was informed of this by Dr Mahathir, who is Prime Minister.

The committee will meet for three days from May 10 to look into the problems of the people in the state.

25/4/1991 (NST, 26/4/1991)

KOTA BARU, Thurs.- The Kelantan Umno liaison committee is prepared to face the by-elections in the Sungai Pinang and Limbongan State seats which are declared vacant soon following the amendment to the State constitution.

The State Assembly today passed the amendment to the constitution which requires a State Assemblyman to give up his seat when he quits the party. The provision has been backdated to Nov 18 last year.

Once the amendment is gazetted, the Sungai Pinang State Assemblyman Haji Nordin Salleh and Limbongan State Assemblyman Haji Wan Najib Mohamed, who had quit Semangat 46 would lose their seats.

State deputy Umno liaison committee chairman Senator Haji Annuar Musa said all machinery would be geared to make the necessary preparations to face the by-elections in both the constituencies.

He also said Umno will seek legal advice, including from the Attorney-General's Chambers, with regard to the amendment.

As far as he knew the amendment contravened the Federal Constitution and was aimed at curbing political freedom. .

He told reporters after opening the Parents-Teachers Association meeting of Sekolah Rendah Kebangsaan Kateroh today that a detailed study of the amendment would, however, be made before taking the next course of action.

Senator Haji Annuar, who is the Youth and Sports Minister said a report would be submitted to party president Dato' Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad on the matter.

He said the by-elections would be a test to determine the fate of Angkatan Perpaduan Ummah in Kelantan.

"It will also be the yard-stick to measure the support of the people towards Semangat 46," he said.

25/4/1991 (STAR, 26/4/1991)

JOHOR BARU, Thurs.- Johor Umno Youth will send 200 members to help campaign in the Bayu state by-election, its chief Raden Basiron Said said today.

He said they would include several former Johor Semangat leaders who had rejoined Umno.

"These leaders will speak to Bayu residents particularly on a failure of Angkatan Perpaduan Ummah in uniting the Malays in Kelantan," he said.

26/4/1991 (STAR, 27/4/1991)

KANGAR, Fri.- Perlis Umno and Pas have despatched their election workers and officers to help campaigning in the Bayu state by-election in Kedah on May 4.

State Umno liaison committee secretary Haji Bahari Taib said today the party sent about 30 workers, speakers and officers to Bayu to help the BN candidate, Encik Mohamed Sibi Ahmad.

Perlis Menteri Besar Abdul Hamid Pawanteh would also help in the campaigning for the BN candidate, he added.

Pas has sent about 40 volunteers, led by States Pas liaison committee secretary Hashim Yassin to campaign for the Pas candidate, Haji Mohamad Yusof Ismail.- BERNAMA

26/4/1991 (STAR, 27/4/1991)

MARANG, Fri.- The Terengganu Umno liaison committee has named six people, including Menteri Besar Tan Sri Haji Wan Mokhtar Ahmad, to sit on the Terengganu-Kelantan joint committee.

The others are liaison secretary Tengku Dato' Mahmud Mansor, state councillors Dato' Bakar Daud and Dato' Wan Zakaria Abdul Rahman, Youth chief Haji Idris Jusoh and liaison deputy head Dato' Dr Yusof Nor.

Tengku Mahmud told newsmen here that the decision was reached at the liaison committee meeting on April 19, and the members would co-operate with Kelantan Umno representatives led by Dato' Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

Tengku Mahmud, who is Deputy Primary Industries Minister, said the Menteri Besar would contact the Prime Minister soon to set the date for the first time.

The joint committee was set up to foster closer ties between the two state Umno and to pave the way for Umno to return to power in Kelantan.

He said Umno's chances of regaining control of the state were bright.-BERNAMA

26/4/1991 (STAR, 27/4/1991)

JOHOR BARU, Fri.- The Johor Baru Umno division wants the state liaison committee to give Dato' Musa Hitam "**honuorable his recognition**" for his contributions to the party.

Division leader Dato' Shahrir Abdul Samad said today the former Deputy Prime Minister had not given ample recognition by the state Umno although he had exhausted his time and energy to help rebuild the party.

"Some leaders in Johor disregard Dato' Musa's efforts and behave as though he is no longer in the party. We must not forget what Dato' Musa has done for Umno and Johor.

"Umno members should realize this and all branches in the state should urged the state leadership to honour Dato' Musa's contributions, especially in the coming branch general meetings.

"The Johor Bahru division will initiate these efforts and we hope other divisions will follow," he added at a Hari Raya gathering.

On speculation Dato' Musa will return to the political forefront to help strengthen Umno in Johor, Dato' Shahrir said it would be good for Umno if the former deputy president could do so.

Semangat division deputy head Othman Jais said Dato' Musa could still contribute to the party with his vast political and administration experience.

However, he said there were certain division leaders who regarded Dato' Musa a threat to their political future.

"Dato' Musa can still do much for the party and Umno leaders should sink their differences and join hands to build the party with veterans like Dato Musa," he added.

26/4/1991 (NST, 27/4/1991)

KOTA BARU, Fri.- The amendments to the Kelantan constitution which were passed by the State Assembly yesterday have created confusion among some members of the public.

Many thought the decision has stripped Haji Nordin Salleh and Haji Wan Najib Mohamad of their post as the Sungai Pinang and Limbongan State Assemblymen.

The Assembly yesterday passed two amendments to the State constitution, one of which causes a State Assemblyman to lose his seat if he quit his party or is sacked by it.

The amendment was to have come into affect from Nov 18 last year.

Sungai Pinang State Assemblyman Haji Nordin Salleh said the misunderstanding was due to a report on a Malay daily which reported that two BN State Assemblymen lost their seats when the State Assembly passed the amendment to the State constitution.

The daily also reported that by-elections would be held in both the State constituencies.

"The amendment does not automatically make us lose our seats.

"The State Assembly will have sit again to declare the seats vacant after the amendment has been gazetted," said Haji Nordin.

He added that until the State Assembly holds a sitting to declare the seats vacant, Haji Wan Mohamed and he are still the State Assemblymen for Limbongan and Sungai Pinang respectively.

In Kuala Terengganu, the Terengganu Umno liaison committee today described the Kelantan Government of being **"afraid of its own shadow"** following the decision to introduce the **"anti-hopping"**.

Its secretary, Dato' Tengku Mahmud Mansor said the amendment to the Kelantan State constitution to force State Assemblymen to lose their seat if they quit the party was politically motivated and undemocratic.

"Pas, which boasts of upholding Islamic values, should give its members the freedom to join any party. They should not have followed PBS in introducing the amendment," he said.

Speaking after launching a civic course for Wanita Marang division at Wakaf Tapai, about 26km from here, he said the amendment was testimony that the Pas-led Government did not practise what it preached.

"Umno never acted in such a way as the party believes in allowing its members the freedom of choosing any political party."

Dato' Tengku Mahmud, who is deputy Primary Industries Minister said Pas' recent actions would result in it losing the support of its members in the long term.

He added that Umno Terengganu has proposed six names to sit in its joint-committee matters pertaining to co-operation between the State and Kelantan Umno.

26/4/1991 (NST, 27/4/1991)

MACHANG, Fri.- The Kelantan State Assembly should amend the State constitution to allow the Pas-led Government to appoint non-Muslims as appointed State Assemblymen.

State Umno deputy liaison chief Senator Haji Annuar Musa said with the amendment the non-Muslims could play a more effective role rather than being appointed to sit in an Exco sub-committee.

"The appointment of the non-Muslims to the sub-committee is an insult to the community since it will only meet once in two months."

He was speaking when closing a jogathon organized by Sekolah Jenis Kebangsaan (C) Poey Sit near here.

The State Government, he added could also have appointed a non-Muslim as a Senator if it was sincere in wanting to help the community.

"The State Assembly is empowered to appoint two senators to represent the State and the State Government could have appointed a non-Muslim to fill up one of the posts."

The State Assembly, had it last sitting, however, appointed Semangat 46 liaison secretary Encik Mohamed Zain Daud and Pas Dewan Muslimat Deputy Chief Hajjah Klthsom Osman as Senators.

Haji Annuar said the Federal Government would continue to implement development projects in the State for the benefit of the people.

Haji Annuar said he would meet with party division chiefs of Tumpat and Pasir Puteh soon to discuss the possibilities of by-election being held in Sungai Pinang and Limbongan.

The meetings would discuss the preparations for possible by-elections after the State Legislative Assembly passed amendment to the State constitution.

Both the Sungai Pinang State Assemblyman Haji Nordin Salleh and Limbongan State Assemblyman Haji Wan Najib Mohamad who quit Semangat 46 and joined Umno will have to vacate their seats once the new law is gazetted.

When asked whether the two men would be picked to represent the party in the event of a by-election, Haji Annuar said the party was more important than the candidates.

26/4/1991 (NST, 27/4/1991)

SIK, Fri.- Fourteen Semangat 46 leaders in the Sik division including its vice-chairman an youth leader quit the party yesterday.

Spokesman foe the group, Encik Razak Teh, who is also the division's Youth leader, said they had tendered their respective in a letter to party secretary-general Dato' Haji Suhaimi Kamarudin.

The letter, signed by all the 14 leaders, stated their resignation was effective yesterday.

Those who signed the resignation letter included divisional vice-chairman Mohamad Nor Ariffin, secretary Mohamad Nor Jaafar, treasurer Haji Majid Ahmad and Wanita leader Sharifah Rokiah Ali.

Only Encik Abdul Razak has stated that he would be joining Umno. The rest had not made any decisions.

Encik Abdul Razak had submitted his application to join Umno through the Kampung Belantit branch.

According to Encik Razak, they stated in the letter that the differences between the division, State and top leadership was one of the reasons for quitting the party.

"The another reason is because Semangat 46 no loner garners the support of the people. Moreover, there is a need to reduce politicking in the Malay community," he added.

Following the resignation of the 14 leaders, there were seven members in the committee of the Sik division.

They are deputy Haji Mohamad Nor Ahmad, information chief Rahim Ahmad and committee members Abdul Hamid Darus, Zainal Othman, Jaafar Minin, Khalid Ahmad and Mohamad Yusof Lembut.

In **Kota Baru**, former Semangat 46 leaders and party activists have launched a campaign to get a supporters in Kelantan to join Umno before the end of May.

Former Semangat youth chief Haji Ibrahim Ali said the campaign was also aimed at getting old Umno members who did not join the present Umno after the party was declared unlawful in 1987.

Speaking to these leaders at a resort in Kelantan, he said the people had made their choice that they wanted the present Umno to continue the struggle of the old.

On the amendment to the State Constitution which forces a State Assemblyman to lose his seat if he resigns or joins another party, Haji Ibrahim said Pas and Semangat 46 have killed democracy.

He said both parties, which one time claimed to be the champion of democracy, have passed a law that made them look cruel and a traitor to democracy.

26/4/1991 (NST, 27/4/1991)

KOTA KINABALU, Fri.- The BN will emphasize the need for continued close between Sabah and Kuala Lumpur in its campaign to retain the Usukan State seat, Deputy Prime Minister Ghafar Baba said.

"Our slogan in the by-election will be reviving the relationship between Sabah and Kuala Lumpur," Encik Ghafar told reporters on his arrival for an overnight visit to the State.

Encik Ghafar, who is Umno deputy president and he would announce the name of the BN candidate in Kota Belud tomorrow.

Encik Ghafar is scheduled to address a Hari Raya gathering at Kampung Timbang Dayang in Kota Belud.

He said the BN candidate was a respected and capable leader who had rendered outstanding service to the State and as well as accepted by the people.

The Kota Belud Umno Division had proposed its division head and Umno Sabah Deputy liaison chief Tun Datu Mustapha Datu Harun as the BN candidate.

Encik Ghafar said the BN machinery for the by-election would be manned by Umno Sabah itself.

Asked if the incumbents would be the BN's candidates, Encik Ghafar said the decision would be made by the Umno supreme council.

27/4/1991 (STAR, 28/4/1991)

KOTA BELUD, Sat.- Sabah Umno liaison committee deputy chairman Tun Datu Mustapha Datu Harun is the BN candidate for the next month's Usukan state by-election.

This was announced by Deputy Prime Minister Ghafar Baba, who is Umno deputy president and Sabah Umno liaison committee chairman, at a Hari Raya gathering at Kampung Timbang Dayang here today.

Meanwhile, PBS has named Kota Belud district officers Jap Omar as its candidate for the by-election.

27/4/1991 (STAR, 28/4/1991)

KUALA TERENGGANU, Sat.- Semangat 46 will take disciplinary action two of "its assemblymen" who opposed the amendment to the State Constitution approved on Thursday by the Kelantan assembly, party president Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah said.

He said the assemblymen, Wan Mohamad Najib (Limbongan) and Haji Nordin Salleh (Sungai Pinang), were still members of the party because it had yet to receive their resignation letters.

Both assemblymen had declared that they had left the party and joined Umno.

The amendment to the constitution provides for a seat to be declared vacant if an assemblyman resigns from its party.- BERNAMA

28/4/1991 (STAR, 29/4/1991)

KOTA BARU, Sun.- Limbungan Assemblyman Haji Wan Najib Wan Mohamad said today he never officially joined Semangat 46.

"I did not fill any form to become a Semangat 46 member, although I was given the responsibility as Pasir Putih division chief," he said at his house in Pasir Puteh.

Haji Wan Najib, who recently declared leaving the party, said although he organised various campaigns to get Semangat 46 supporters to register as member, he himself did not hand in any membership form.

He said this was because he did not expect Semangat 46 to last and his heart was still with Umno.

Last Thursday, the Pas-dominated Kelantan state assembly passed an amendment to the state constitution such that an assemblyman who switched parties loses his seat.

This was backdated to Nov Nov 18 last year.

Another assemblyman, Haji Nordin Salleh (Sungai Pinang), has also quit Semangat 46.

Haji Nordin said the amendment had not stopped him for discharging his duties as an elected representatives.- BERNAMA

29/4/1991 (NST, 30/4/1991)

MALACCA, Mon.- Another former Semangat 46 stalwart, Dato' Wira Ahmad Nordin Amin will be joining Umno soon, said Chief Minister Tan Sri Abdul Rahim Tamby Chik.

Dato' Wira Ahmad Nordin, a former executive Counsellor for three terms from 1978 and former deputy chairman of Umno State liaison committee, resigned from Semangat 46 early this year.

Tan Sri Abdul Rahim said the decision by Dato' Wira Ahmad Nordin, the chairman of Semangat State liaison chief committee, clearly showed that leaders and members of the party were beginning to realise on the need to close ranks in the names of Malay unity.

"We can't compromise on Malay unity and we won't allow certain quarters out to split the strength of the Malays whose well-being could only be championed by Umno which is dominant party in the ruling BN.

"Your decision to rejoin Umno is a patriotic act because it will make the Malays stronger," he said when accepting applications to join Umno by 120 Semangat Kampung Tengah branch members led by their leader Encik Jantan Baba in Bukit Rambai last night.

Tan Sri Rahim said Dato' Wira Nordin and his followers will submit their application forms soon.

Batu Berendam Umno division chief, Dato' Mohamad Ali Rustam, who is also assemblyman for Sungai Udang said at the gathering that about 120 Semangat members from its Pantai Rombang branch had also indicated that they want to join Umno.

"Apart from them, another batch of about the same number from Kampung Gelam have also expressed their keenness to join Umno soon," he said.

29/4/1991 (NST, 30/4/1991)

MALACCA, Mon.- Many party Semangat 46 leaders were making it up when they said they were taking a rest or going for study leave, Wanita Umno leader Dato' Seri Rafidah Aziz said today.

She said they were actually fed up with the party's struggle. How could one explain the fact that those reportedly on leave to pursue studies overseas are still in country, she said at an Hari Raya get-together organised by the Malacca Wanita Umno.

She said some Parti Semangat 46 leaders were seemingly on the verge of retiring, leaving only a handful of leaders to continue the struggle.

Dato' Seri Rafidah said the influx of its members to Umno of late clearly reflected their disappointment over the party's co-operation with Pas through the Angkatan Perpaduan Ummah.- BERNAMA

30/4/1991 (STAR, 1/5/1991)

KOTA BARU, Tues.- The state Umno Youth is prepared should by-elections be held for the state seats of Sungai Pinang and Limbongan in Kelantan.

Youth Wing head Haji Kamarudin Jaafar said all activities of the movement from now would be geared towards ensuring victory for the Barisan Nasional in the two state seats.

The movement felt that the recent amendments to the State constitution, to automatically declare a seat vacant if the assemblyman switched parties, were undemocratic.

Nevertheless, the Umno Youth Wing would make all necessary preparation to face the possibility of by-elections being held in the two constituencies, whose assemblymen quit Parti Semangat 46 to join Umno.

He said the movement had agreed to allow Prime Minister Dato' Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad to pick the candidates for the by-elections. - BERNAMA

30/4/1991 (STAR, 1/5/1991)

KUALA TERENGGANU, Tues.- The Youth and Sports Ministry has cancelled plans to build a youth training centre in Kelantan and the allocation will be distributed to Terengganu and other states.

The Minister, Senator Haji Anuar Musa, said about \$12 million was allocated for the proposed Kelantan youth training centre.

"However, the Kelantan Government has been unwilling to co-operate," he told reporters at a Hari Raya function organized by the Marang Umno Youth movement in Bukit Payong, 13km from here, yesterday.

He said a \$30 million National Youth Vocational and Entrepreneurial Institute would be built in Wakaf Tapai, Marang, to train youths in various trades.

About 1,000 youths could be trained there every year.

The institute, to replace the Jalan Sulaiman Mahmud Youth Training Centre here, would have more facilities, he added.

He also said the Federal Government was going head with plans to build the \$1.5 billion Pergau Valley Dam in Kelantan to overcome the flood problem in the state.

It was part of a national project which could also meet electricity needs for the next 20 years, he added.

Senator Anuar approved a \$20,000 loan for the Marang Umno Youth movement at the function. - BERNAMA

30/4/1991 (STAR, 1/5/1991)

BALING, Tues.- Parti Semangat 46 president Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah is confident that no more Kelantan state assemblymen from his party would quit to join another parties.

According to him, the people in Kelantan were unfurnished by the recent spate of Semangat 46 leaders in the state leaving the party.

Similar actions by Semangat 46 leaders in the other states did not jeopardize the party, he said after addressing a ceramah at the Tun Abdul Razak Hall here last night.

He said should there be by-elections in the two Semangat-held state seats in Kelantan later, his party would defend them.

Last Thursday, the State Assembly passed amendment to the Kelantan Constitution which among other things, require an assemblyman to vacate his seat if he joins other parties.

State Assemblymen Haji Nordin Salleh (Sungai Pinang) and Haji Wan Najib Wan Mohamed (Limbongan) has quit Semangat 46 to join Umno. - BERNAMA

30/4/1991 (STAR, 1/5/1991)

KOTA KINABALU, Tues.- Sabah Yang di Pertua Negeri's son Datuk Haji Salleh Tun Haji Mohamad Said Keruak, who resigned from PBS a week ago, today announced he was joining Umno.

"Following my resignation from PBS on April 23, I will be pursuing my political struggle in Umno."

He believed that through Umno he would be able to contribute towards promoting better ties between the States and Federal Governments.

Datuk Haji Salleh, 34, resigned as PBS supreme council member, PBS Usukan divisional chairman as well as a nominated State Assemblyman, in protest of the PBS leadership's decision to contest in the Usukan by-election.

Sabah Umno deputy liaison chairman Tun Datu Mustapha Datu Harun is engaged in a straight fight with former Kota Belud district officer Jap Omar of PBS in the by-election on May.

1/5/1991 (STAR, 2/5/1991)

JOHOR BARU, Wed. - Scores of Umno branches in six divisions in Johor have come out in support of the Johor Baru division's call on the state party liaison committee to honour Dato' Musa Hitam for his service to Umno.

At least 20 branches in the Muar division have decided to support Johor Baru division leader Dato' Shahrir Abdul Samad, who is spearheading the campaign for due recognition to the former Deputy Prime Minister's contributions.

A spokesman for the branches, Dato' Kadar Shah Tan Sri Sulaiman, said most of the branch leaders supported the move at a meeting last Saturday.

"Many branch leaders in the Ledang and Bakri divisions have also join us to urge the state to honour Dato' Musa," he added.

Dato' Kadar said the members on the ground were in support of the move "and many feel that the recognition should have been given after the Johor Malay Unity Conference first anniversary in 1989."

Dato' Shahrir had called on the state Umno last week to honour Dato' Musa for his long and untiring efforts to help reunite Johor Malays after the old party was deregistered.

"If Dato' Musa had joined Semangat 46, the political situation in the state will never be the same," he said.

Dato' Kadar said he would also seek support on the issue from the other division.

1/5/1991 (STAR, 2/5/1991)

KUALA LUMPUR, Wed. - Several Semangat 46 state assemblymen in Kelantan who were expected to join two colleagues who have defected to Umno are said to have put their plans on hold pending the outcome of two by-elections.

Sources said today the recent amendment to the state constitution disqualifying members who switched parties had forced them to adopt a "wait-and-see" attitude.

"Sungai Pinang and Limbongan will be seen as a test case by the others wishing to defect. They want to see what the future holds for the members, Haji Nordin Salleh and Haji Wan Najib Mohamad," said one source.

"The amendment to the state constitution succeeded in checking further defections only in the near future. It will not be able to prevent such acts altogether," said another source.

Sources said she had decided to remain cautious and delayed her decision to leave, saying she would proceed only if things turned out favourably for the "pioneering" two.

"Firstly, she wants to see whether Haji Nordin and Haji Wan Najib get to recontest their seats and, secondly, whether the two will be able to retain the seats on Barisan Nasional tickets," said another source.

The members who want to switch were also monitoring developments following the statement by Haji Wan Najib that he never formally joined Semangat.

Haji Wan Najib was reported as saying he did not put in his membership application form.

Several other Semangat assembly members, including Haji Nordin, were also said to have failed to sign up as members.

1/5/1991 (NST, 2/5/1991)

PASIR MAS, Wed. - State deputy Umno liaison chief Senator Haji Anuar Musa today criticised the Pads-led Kelantan Government for misusing State funds to spread its party propaganda.

He said there has been information that the State Government has abused its powers by using the State's funds for political purposes.

"We received feedback including from officers in certain State Government departments that the Government is using the people's money today for the cost of printing pamphlets to propagate its party," he added.

Senator Haji Annuar Musa, who is the Youth and Sports Minister, alleged that the State Government has also misused its power by fronting special privileges to leaders of the ruling parties including allocating special parking lots for them.

"The Government is also using State buildings meant for official functions to accommodate its party guests for political purposes."

He was speaking to reporters after opening the Kelantan Invitation Sepaktakraw Championship at Kampung Kangkung here.

He said there were also reports claiming that the issuing of timber loggers was not being carried out through proper procedures.

"We received evidence that timber concessions were approved to those who have strong political backing."

Senator Haji Anuar Musa also questioned the State Government's motive behind the setting up of the Serambi Mekah Fund.

"We received complaints from some of the loggers that they are required to donate to the fund before their logging licences can be renewed," he said.

He added that a thorough investigation would be carried out.

Senator Haji Annuar, who is also representative in the Federal Government, reassured the Kelantan people of continued development in the State.

"We will continue to carry out development projects in the State for the benefit of the people, especially the poor," he said.

He expressed regrets over the State Government's attitude in matter relating to the eradication of poverty in the State.

"Everything that happens to us is God-sent. But we cannot accept poverty as a problem which God intended for us and be complacent about it.

"God also gave us the capability of the Government to help," he said.

1/5/1991 (NST, 2/5/1991)

KANGAR, Wed.- Wanita Umno wants poverty eradication and restructuring off society to become key objectives of the Outline Perspective Plan to be resolutely pursued with more effective strategies.

Wanita Umno chief Dato' Seri Rafidah Aziz said today it was of paramount importance that the 10-year OPP, to replace the New Economic Policy, would not detract from these targets.

She made clear that the movement was not satisfied with the progress made pertaining to these two pronged targets of the NEP.

"The new policy must give strong emphasis on these two areas with changes made to existing strategies where necessary to ensure effectiveness."

Continuing efforts to realize the targets must also be carried out with renewed vigour, and special attention given towards formulating clearer approach towards attaining greater Bumiputeras participation in the nation's economy.

These include a greater role for Bumiputeras in the industrial sectors and commercial ventures.

Dato' Seri Rafidah said the OPP should at least maintain the 30 per cent Bumiputera equity ownership as its target.

Eradicating poverty irrespective of race too must not be neglected, she pointed out.

Finance Minister Dato' Seri Anwar Ibrahim had on 11 April said the OPP, would be tabled by Prime Minister Dato' Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad in Parliament in June.

Speaking to reporters after meeting State Wanita Umno leaders, the International Trade and Industry Minister also said the movement's executive council would convenes a special meeting with all Wanita elected representatives and women representatives from various sectors in Kuala Lumpur in May 77.

This was to gauge effectiveness of the role of women in nation building.

Dato' Seri Rafidah also said Wanita Umno was in the process of appointing the respective State heads and deputies.

For Perlis Wanita Umno, the current State chief Senator Rosnah Haji Salleh has been retained along with her deputy Puan Che Ah Long.

1/5/1991 (NST, 2/5/1991)

KOTA BARU, Wed.- The Federal Territory Umno will give \$10,000 as financial aid to Kota Baru Umno division.

FT Umno treasurer Dato' Drs Sulaiman Mohamed, announcing this yesterday, said the money, to be delivered to the division in a few days, was to mark the co-operation between FT Umno and the Kota Baru division.

"We will provide every possible assistance to this division as part of our effort to help strengthen Umno in Kelantan," he told reporters after attending a Hari Raya gathering organized by the division yesterday.

Dato' Drs Sulaiman, who led a FT Umno delegation here, said a committee to be formed would meet to draw up joint activities.

Also present was the division chief Tengku Ahmad Rithaudeen.

2/5/1991 (NST, 3/5/1991)

KUALA LUMPUR, Thurs.- Umno will resort to the Courts if the two Semangat 46 Assemblymen who quit the party recently and who have since joined Umno were to be disqualified and have their seats declared vacant.

Party secretary-general Dato' Mohamed Rahmat said Umno believed the move to disqualify both Assemblymen, Wan Mohamad Najib (BN-Limbongan) and Haji Nordin Salleh (BN-Sungai Pinang), if it went ahead, was unconstitutional and stood a good chance of being reversed by the Courts.

Both men won the seats under the Semangat 46 ticket in the last general election.

They quit the party in March following differences with the party leadership and their unhappiness with Pas's broken pledges on the allocation of administrative posts.

Dato' Mohamad said Umno's lawyers have been instructed to study the legal implications of the "anti hopping" bill which was passed into law by the Kelantan Legislative Assembly on April 25.

"They are studying the legality of the move, especially its retrospective nature which allows for the disqualification," he told reporters after visiting the Malaysia Film Development Corporation (Finas) headquarters here yesterday.

Dato' Mohamad said once the lawyers has established grounds in their favour, then Umno would institute the necessary action.

3/5/1991 (STAR, 4/5/1991)

IPOH, Mon.- The victory of Tun Datu Mustapha Datu Harun in the Usukan by-election on Sunday has cleared doubts over the acceptance of Umno by Sabahans, Menteri Besar Tan Sri Ramli Ngah Talib said today.

He said it also proved that Sabahans were not in favour of their state government and its leadership.

"The victory has confirmed that Sabahans, particularly those in Usukan, have accepted Umno in Sabah," he said after presenting incentives to state sportsmen who participated in last year's Sukan Malaysia.

3/5/1991 (NST, 4/5/1991)

BALING, Fri.- The anti-hop laws initiated by the Kelantan State Government will not prevent Semangat 46 and Pas State Assemblymen from joining the exodus of other leaders into Umno, Umno Youth leader Dato' Seri Najib Tun Razak said.

He revealed that he had been supplied with a list of names of Semangat 46 and Pas assemblymen in Kelantan who intended to join Umno.

"It will be a matter of time before these assemblymen announce their decision to disregard the anti-hopping laws," Dato' Seri Najib said last night in his meeting with Baling Umno youth at Dewan Tun Razak here.

The Umno Youth leader said the names were given to him by former Semangat 46 Limbongan Assemblyman Haji Wan Najib Mohamad.

Dato' Seri Najib dismissed allegations that there was a secret promise between Umno and the Semangat 46 and Pas Assemblymen to lure them into Umno.

He denied that Umno was offering timber concessions and financial and political promises to the assemblymen who intended to quit the party.

"The Assemblymen's decision to quit Semangat 46 and Pas is made on their own accord," Dato' Seri Najib said.

They quit because they realise that only Umno can champion the interest and aspirations of the Malays, he said.

Dato' Seri Najib pointed out that the Pas-led State Government had itself to be blamed for the exodus.

3/5/1991 (STAR, 4/5/1991)

BALING, Fri.- Deputy Prime Minister Abdul Ghafar Baba has called on voters in Bayu to choose the party with a proven track record in the by-election tomorrow.

He said the BN government had succeeded in enhancing national development and none of the people had to starve.

Of the people's chose Pas, they would not gain anything because the opposition party would not be able to bring development for them, he added.

Encik Ghafar, who is Umno deputy president, was speaking at a gathering with residents of Seberang Bongor here last night.

Also present were Deputy Minister in the PM's Department Dato' Haji Raja Ariffin Raja Sulaiman, his parliamentary secretary Haji Othman Abdul, and the BN candidate Mohamed Sibi Ahmad.

Encik Ghafar said the Government also had long-term plans to step up development and to ensure that the people continued to have jobs and adequate housing.

He said the Pas-led Kelantan Government had failed to implement the concept of an Islamic nation which it had long fought.

In addition, the state government came up with many confusing regulations, such as barring women from night work and from taking part in Quran recitation competition," he added.

Encik Ghafar said the Government had allocated \$500,000 to renovate and build houses for the poor residents in Baling and it would consider increasing the allocation after by-election.

He said he would visit the district again after the by-election to announce further development projects if BN won.

The by-election, a straight fight between Encik Sibi and Haji Mohamad Yusof Ismail, was forced by the death of Dato' Haji Seroji Harun in March - BERNAMA

4/5/1991 (NST. 5/5/1991)

KOTA BELUD, Sat.- Umno has nothing to do a police report against PBS leaders who allegedly took part in an illegal procession here last Monday.

State Umno Liaison Committee information chief Nilwan Kabang issued this clarification.

The police report here on April 29 shortly after nomination for the May 11 Usukan by-election closed.

He complained that PBS leaders, including Datuk Ahmad Baharum Titingan, took part in the procession. He claimed that no police permit had been issued for the procession.

4/5/1991 (STAR, 5/5/1991)

KOTA KINABALU, Sat.- An Umno supreme council member today claimed that the ruling PBS was spending a lot of money to prevent a BN victory in the Usukan state by-election next week.

Dato' Abdul Kadir Sheikh Fadzir told newsmen at the Kota Kinabalu International Airport on arrival from Kuala Lumpur, that he had received complaints that the PBS was using "money power" in its house-to-house campaigning.

"This is a deplorable, dirty and most dangerous political ploy. I urge the Election Commission to check the situation before it gets out of hand," he said.

"They give money to BN supporters and "borrow" their identity cards promising to return them later," he said, adding that by keeping the identity cards they could prevent supporters from voting.

4/5/1991 (NST, 5/5/1991)

KOTA BARU, Sat.- Kelantan Umno division deputy chairman Senator Haji Anuar Musa has accused Pas using the State Government's resources to strengthen its political base in the State.

He said Pas' strategy was to appoint their members as a officials in the State administration to ensure that the party would continue to enjoy the support off the people.

"I am also confident that Pas-led State Government will select more religious officials among Pas members rather than Semangat 46 despite assurances that it will be fair when making the selection."

However, he said Pas' idea of creating a powerful political base would deprive the people of developments projects as it had only limited funds.

Speaking to reporters after chairing a special meeting with Umno division leaders here last night, Senator Haji Anuar said the Kelantan and Terengganu Umno have agreed to make Besut its base to carry out joint training programmes for the members.

4/5/1991 (STAR, 5/5/1991)

JOHOR BARU, Sat.- Johor Umno has identified certain groups which are trying to undermine its stability by "**promoting**" certain leaders within the party.

State party chief Tan Sri Haji Muhyiddin Mohamed Yassin said members should be wary of such groups which were from within and outside the party.

He said Johor Umno, after riding the turmoil of splits and by and by-elections immediately after its deregistration, had emerged as one of the strongest state level parties in the centuries.

"But there are people who wanted to see Johor Umno in shambles and are trying to destroy all that has been achieved over the years," he said at a Hari Raya dinner organized by the Tebrau Umno division here last night.

Tan Sri Muhyiddin who is Johor Menteri Besar, said the Malays in Johor should stay united and work harder to restore Johor Umno to its former state of glory.

He said the splits within Umno after its de-registration in 1988 had made party leaders wiser and more capable of overcoming any new political challenge.

4/5/1991 (NST. 5/5/1991)

BALING, Sat.- BN retained the Bayu state seat when its candidate Mohd Sibi Ahmad defeated Pas' Mohamad Yusof Ismail with a majority of 3,592 votes.

Encik Mohamad Sibi, 40, obtained 9,545 votes while Encik Mohamed, 56, polled 5,953 votes.

There were 156 spoilt votes with a voter turnout of 75.33 per cent of the 20,822 voters.

The result was announced by returning officers Ku Nahar Ku Ibrahim at 10pm.

The by-election was held following the death of BN Assemblyman Dato' Haji Seroji Harun on March 9.

In the 1990 general election, the late Dato' Seroji defeated Semangat 46's Ishak Ismail by a majority of 5,774 votes.

Menteri Besar Dato' Seri Haji Osman Aroff said the people's rejection Angkatan Perpaduan Ummah (APU).

"It shows that the people are confident of the BN. They have rejected the issues created by Pas in the campaign," he said.

Dato' Seri Haji Osman promised that the state Government would give adequate attention to the Bayu constituency.

Baling Umno divisional leader, Dato' Raja Ariffin Raja Sulaiman, who is Deputy Minister in the Prime Minister's Department, said the reduced majority was due to presence of outsiders during the campaign.

5/5/1991 (STAR, 6/5/1991)

MALACCA, Sun.- Deputy Prime Minister Abdul Ghafar Baba said he was not surprised by the reduced majority obtained by the BN in the Bayu by-election yesterday.

"It is normal for the BN to lose some votes during a by-election because the opposition party unusually puts up a tougher fight," he said.

Encik Ghafar said that despite the reduced majority, it was still a handsome win.

"I am pleased with the result because it shows that the people still want the BN government to led the country," he told reporters after attending the Malacca Malay Writers Association's Aidil Fitri dinner last night.

Encik Ghafar congratulated the candidate Mohamad Sibi and Kedah Umno liaison chief and Menteri Besar Dato' Seri Haji Osman Aroff for the victory.

"The more Pas leaders talk, the more they expose their weaknesses and hypocrisy.

"For example, when they cannot overcome poverty in Kelantan, they say that being poor is God's gift.

"This is against the teachings of Islams which does not ask its followers to be fatalistic about poverty but encourages them to work hard to overcome it."

Meanwhile, Youth and Sports Minister Haji Annuar Musa said the victory showed the people had faith in the coalition.

"It would seem the whole country, except Kelantan, has faith in the BN," said Haji Annuar, who is an Umno Supreme Council member.

6/5/1991 (STAR, 7/5/1991)

BALING, Mon.- The BN's triumph in the Bayu state by-election was expected, but the comfortable majority secured surprised even the few diehards.

Most BN followers had anticipated a "pull through" by only between 1,500 to 2,000 votes due to the Pas onslaught during campaigning.

Before the election, political observers said a BN victory of 2,000 to 3,000 votes would be a "landslide".

There was also estimated to be about 3,700 fence-sitters who had yet to make up their minds close to polling day.

So the success by 3,592 votes was especially sweet as none in the BN camp believed that the coalition could improve on, or repeat, its record at the October general election.

Six months ago, Dato' Haji Seroji Harun defeated Semangat 46's Ishak Ismail by 5,774. The late Dato' Seroji had polled 10,792 votes against the latter's 5,109.

But what the BN went through during the last 10 days campaigning was a different story altogether.

"They (Pas) took us close to the doorstep of death and we were lucky to come off squeaky clean," said one BN leader.

Political observers offered various reasons for the ruling coalition's remarkable win.

Some said the thrust of the Pas campaign, which stressed the lower qualifications of BN's Mohamad Sibi Ahmad, backfired.

The impressive religious background of Haji Mohamad Yusof Ismail, 56, worried the BN camp throughout the campaign, but ended up a "plus point" instead.

Pas billboards outlining the academic qualifications and senior posts held by Haji Yusoff were erected at almost all strategic points and this "annoyed the conservative kampong folk, said a BN official.

"They (Pas) were playing up their candidate and downgrading our to the extent the kampong folk offended.

"The villagers had not been exposed to a campaign based solely on academic qualifications," he added.

The Pas tactic to discourage disgruntled BN followers of Umno leaders who had failed to win the candidacy also played a significant part in its downfall, another official pointed out.

Angkatan had gone all out to exploit the "disunity" in the BN camp after Encik Sibi, 40, got the nod at the last minute over eight other Baling division colleagues to contest the seat.

"Many had jostled for the seat and those disappointed did not appear to give us their crucial support.

"But the supporters of this group may have voted for Pas if they came out (to vote)," he said.

State Umno information chief Abdul Rahman Ibrahim said Pas attempts to divide the Umno machinery was a "total failure".

Kedah Pas secretary Haji Suhaimi Ahmad admitted that Angkatan's move to discourage the disappointed group from voting proved to be setback.

"We assumed that if we cut off this group, the result would tilt to our favour," he said.

Observers also attributed BN's success to the efforts of Deputy Prime Minister Abdul Ghafar Baba and Menteri Besar Dato' Seri Haji Osman Aroff.

"Nobody explained the bread and the butlers issues better than Encik Ghafar, while Dato' Seri Osman was instrumental in pulling over the fence-sitters with his "campaigning", said a senior Baling Umno leader.

The results clearly prove this. For all the heat it applied, Pas, votes more than the Semangat candidates did last year.

BN's votes were reduced by only 1,248.

8/5/1991 (STAR, 9/5/1991)

KOTA KINABALU, Wed. - The Barisan Nasional (BN) today accepted Parti Keadilan Rakyat (Akar) as its component party, BN secretary-general Encik Ghafar Baba announced here.

There are now 11 parties in the Barisan.

The Deputy Prime Minister told reporters on arrival here this evening that all the other component parties in the coalition have agreed to AKAR's membership.

There was delay in announcing the Barisan's officials acceptance of Akar's membership because one or two component parties took time to give approval, he said.

Encik Ghafar hoped now that Akar is a BN component, it would strive with the other parties in the coalition to work for the nation's prosperity.

Akar can send three representatives to future BN meetings, just as the other component, he said.

Encik Ghafar urged Akar members to help ensure BN's victory in the Usukan seat by-election which is a straight fight between its Umno candidate and the PBS.

"I am aware that most Akar members are Dusun/Kadazan. They can help explain to their kinsfolk that the BN champions the cause of Malaysians of all communities," he said.

Encik Ghafar said the BN's presence in Sabah was essential for the sake of Sabahans.

Sabah could only progress along sides the other states if good relations prevailed between the federal and state governments, he said.

The BN was not seeking glory by contesting in the election but not to give the people chance to express their aspirations and seek advancement together.

Encik Ghafar criticised the PBS for continuing to harp on anti-federal sentiments during for the Usukan by-election without thinking of the repercussions on the state and the people.

Encik Ghafar, who is also Rural development Minister, criticised the ruling PBS for accusing him of not fulfilling his pledge to build a hospital in Sipitang.

Encik Ghafar, accompanied by Information Minister Dato' Mohamed Rahmat was met on arrival at the airport by Federal Secretary Haji Shamsudin and Sabah Umno leaders. - BERNAMA

10/5/1991 (BUSINESS TIMES, 11/5/1991)

Umno secretary-general Dato' Mohamed Rahmat dismissed yesterday MCA's statement that the top leadership of Umno has accepted MCA's

proposal to set up the Malaysian Chinese Cultural City'. This is not trueUmno has never agreed to the project and I am disappointed that the Umno leadership has been linked to it. I would like to deny the involvement of Umno leaders or the party in the proposed centre," he said yesterday in Pekan, Pahang.

Dato' Mohamed, who is Information Minister, was commenting on MCA president Dato' Dr Ling Liong Sik's recent statement that the project has been accepted by the top leadership of Umno and Barisan Nasional.

Meanwhile, Human Resources Minister Dato' Lim Ah Lek said MCA's proposal will be discussed at Cabinet level, and will not be debated openly.

10/5/1991 (NST, 11/5/1991)

KUALA LUMPUR, Fri.- Umno celebrates the anniversary of its formation tomorrow and, with added significance in many aspects.

For the first time, Sabah will also join in celebrations following the party's expansion there with the setting up of 20 divisions in the State early this year.

The spreading of Umno's wings there has increased the party's membership to 1.5 million, and the number of divisions to 153.

"This is the highest number of members recorded in the party's history," Federal Territory Umno executive secretary Baharom Hashim told Bernama when making preparations for the celebrations at the party's headquarters at the PWTC here.

By coincidence, tomorrow also marks Umno's polls debut in Sabah when former Umno chief Tun Datu Mustapha carries the Barisan Nasional (Umno) challenge against Encik Jap Omar of PBS in the Usukan State by-election.

Umno leaders are banking on a victory to boost efforts to spread the party influence in Sabah.

"Victory in the by-election will be a valuable birthday gift to Umno," Umno secretary-general Dato' Mohamed Rahmat said.

An aide to Tun Mustapha said today the veteran leader, who has brought more than 130,000 Umno members into Umno, was satisfied with the campaign.

He said among the plus factors for Umno in the by-election were the decision by format PBS nominated assemblyman Salleh Tun Said Keruak to join Umno and the support it received from Angkatan Keadilan Rakyat (Akar).

Encik Salleh, said to be influential in Usukan, contested on a PBS ticket and lost narrowly to Tun Datu Mustapha in a by-election in 1987.

Federal Umno leaders, however, have been "advised" not to campaign in the area for fear that their presence would be made an issue by the Opposition.

"I have also been asked by Tun to return to Kuala Lumpur because he does not want PBS to exploit our presence by claiming that it proof of Federal interference," said the aide.

He said Tun Mustapha had been staying at a shop house in Kota Belud since Hari Raya to show his sincerity in wishing to be close to the people.

This year's celebrations are also special in the sense that they come on the heels of the party's strong showing in last October's general election when it won 71 of the 86 parliamentary seats it contested.

Although it received a shock defeat in Kelantan where it was routed, things were looking up following the return of several Opposition leaders to Umno.

11/5/1991 (STAR, 12/5/1991)

KUALA LUMPUR, Sat.- Deputy Prime Minister Ghafar Baba said Umno's victory in the Usukan state by-election was a significant gift to Umno in conjunction with its 45th anniversary today.

Tun Datu Mustapha Datu Harun's victory was also due to the co-operation of newly-accepted Barisan Nasional member Akar and Chinese-based parties in Sabah, he told reporters before hosting a dinner for Turkish President Torgut Ozal at Carcosa Seri Negara here tonight.

Encik Ghafar, who is Sabah Umno liaison committee chief, thanked the security forces and Election Commission for ensuring a smooth by-election.

The by-election was called after Tun Mustapha, who won the seat in the last state election, left Usno to join Umno in March.

The Sabah Constitution stipulates that as Assemblyman who resigns from the party on whose tickets he won the seat must vacate the seat.

In KOTA BELUD, Land and Co-operative Development Minister Tan Sri Sakaran Dandai described the Barisan victory as a manifestation of people's acceptance of Umno.

The win showed that the people in the area wanted good relations with people in other states, he told newsman at Kota Belud community hall after the results were announced.

Tan Sri Sakaran said the Federal Government would continue to implement development projects in Sabah.

A total of 8,903 of the 11,225 voters had cast their votes by the time polling centres closed this evening.

Election Commission chairman Datuk Harun Din told reporters that the turnout was less than anticipated "but good enough".

By noon, about 44 per cent has cast their votes at the 12 polling centers. Polling slowed down in the afternoon after a steady turnout in the morning.

Most of those who voted in the morning were farmers, petty traders and housewives. - BERNAMA

11/5/1991 (STAR, 12/5/1991)

KOTA BELUD, Sat.- Umno was its first seat in Sabah when Tun Datu Haji Mustapha Datu Harun defeated Encik Jap Omar of the PBS by 2,492 votes in the Usukan state by-election here today.

Tun Mustapha obtained 55,672 votes while Encik Jap Omar secured 3,180 votes. There were 576 spoilt votes.

In the last year's state election, Tun Mustapha won by 2,657 votes.

A total of 8,903 of the 11,226 registered voters (79.65 percent) cast their votes.

The Usukan seat was declared vacant after Tun Mustapha resigned from Usno in February to join Umno. -BERNAMA

11/5/1991 (STAR, 12/5/1991)

JOHOR BARU, Sat.- Semangat 46 president Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah will make a one-day visit to Johor tomorrow to rejuvenate the state party.

Johor Semangat deputy chairman Haji Kahar Ahmad said today Tengku Razaleigh would address party members at the Dewan Raya Kampung Dato' Onn in Larkin here.

He said the party president would also have dialogue with divisional leaders and committee members from the nine divisions in south Johor, in a move to check the exodus of members to Umno.

"We are concerned with news that hundreds of Semangat members in Johor have crossed over to Umno. We want to stop it," he said.

Haji Kahar, the Assemblyman for Parit Bakar, said the state Semangat 46 was also planning for Tengku Razaleigh to visit Muar to meet members from north Johor.

In recent weeks, more than 1,0000 Semangat members, including 350 from Tebrau division, were reported to have rejoined Umno.

Haji Kahar said many party members in Johor were uneasy after the party failed to capture the state in the last general election.

"We hoped Tengku Razaleigh's visit will renew members' spirit," he said.

11/5/1991 (NST, 12/5/1991)

KOTA BARU, Sat.- Former Semangat 46 Youth leader Haji Ibrahim Ali has asked Menteri Besar Haji Nik Abdul Aziz Nik Mat not to intervene in the duties of the State Mufti.

He said that by issuing *fatwa* (Islamic rulings), Haji Nik Abdul Aziz has taken over the job of the Mufti who was appointed by the Sultan of Kelantan.

Haji Ibrahim added that the Menteri Besar should concentrate on his work as the chief executive of the State in bringing development and helping the people to live a better life.

"Instead, the Pas-led Government to gives excuses that is the responsibility of the people and the Federal Government to take care of the poor," he said.

Speaking at a meeting between Youth and Sports Minister Senator Haji Annuar Musa and the people here, Haji Ibrahim said it was clear that the State Government had no intention to help the poor.

He also urged Semangat president Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah and party members to return to Umno.

Meanwhile, Limbongan State Assemblyman Haji Wan Mohamad Najib Wan Mohamed said the State Government has appointed Pas members to fill most of the political posts in the administration.

"Semangat members were given the least number of posts, and the positions held were insignificant," he said.

11/5/1991 (STAR, 12/5/1991)

JOHOR BARU, Sat.- Umno members need much dedication and loyalty to the party to resist the lure of money politics currently gripping Umno, party secretary-general Dato' Mohamed Rahmat.

He said money politics had become one of the greatest challenges to Umno.

"Much of the party's ideals have been compromised by those enticed by money and personal gains," he said.

He said the money factor had also been exploited by certain factors to create friction between members and leaders such as between him and Johor Menteri Besar Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin.

"We still have members unwilling to contribute voluntarily without expecting payments or incentives in return.

"If this keep up, I do not see our future struggles to be as mighty as those of the past, he told an Umno gathering in Gelang Patah in conjunction with the party's anniversary.

He said Umno needed a new spirit of solidarity and support to triumph in future undertakings, citing the party's expansions to Sabah as an example.

12/5/1991 (STAR, 13/5/1991)

KUALA LUMPUR, Sun. - Dato' Seri Ling Liong Sik described Umno's victory in Usukan as a good sign for the Barisan Nasional.

The MCA president congratulated Tun Datu Mustapha, who defeated the PBS candidates by 2,492 votes, on his **"very beautiful victory"**.

"The people have re-confirmed him as the *wakil rakyat* and also the BN and Umno's entry into Sabah," he said.

Dr Ling added that the MCA was determined to spread its wings to Sabah.

"We are still going from place to place making friends before we sit together to select the (MCA) leadership of Sabah.

"As I have always, (Sabah) MCA must be led a Sabahan," he added.

In Ipoh, MCA secretary-general Dr Ting Chew Peh said the results showed that people were confident in Umno and the BN.

He added that Umno's victory would eventually benefit the other BN parties.

In Sungai Siput, MIC president Dato' Seri S.Samy Vellu said BN's victory paved the way for its component parties to expand to Sabah.

He said the fact that Umno could retain the seat for the BN was clear testimony that there would no problem of acceptance of other component parties by the people in Sabah.

The MIC would act immediately to set up branches in Sabah, Bernama quoted him as saying.

The party had received three applications from Indians in the state to open branches, he said.

Statistics show there were about 600 Indians families in Kota Kinabalu alone, he added.

12/5/1991 (NST, 13/5/1991)

PASIR MAS, Sun.- Umno vice-president Dato' Seri Sanusi Junid has urged Semangat and Pas state assemblymen to quit their parties and join Umno for sake of the Kelantan people.

He said the anti-hop law passed by the Pas-led Government clearly indicated that it was scared of losing its elected representatives.

Many would have left it the law had not been enforced by the State Government, he said after opening the KADA pump house here.

Dato' Sanusi added that the elected representatives must not be afraid to leave both the parties in the interest of the people.

"They must remember that the parties they represented were set up by those who left Umno," he said.

Earlier, Dato' Seri Sanusi, who is Agriculture Minister, criticised the State Government for failing to improved the quality of life of the people here.

"Elected representatives have been the only ones to benefit since the Pas-led Government should also be blamed for the freeze on fertilizer subsidies following the dismissal of the penghulu appointed by the previous BN Government.

12/5/1991 (STAR, 13/5/1991)

KOTA KINABALU, Sun.- Tun Datu Mustapha Datu Harun said his victory in the Usukan by-election yesterday was the happiness event in the history of his political struggle.

He told BERNAMA today that this was because the victory would bring a new political platform to Sabah.

"My political opponents have tried to erode the people's confidence in Umno, but the election result showed that they have failed," he said.

He won the by-election on a BN ticket by a majority of 2,492 votes beating PBS candidate Jap Omar.

Tun Musthapa, who is Sabah Umno liaison committee deputy head, said Umno would give Sabah new life as it would give more development to the state.

"In the short period, since Umno was established here, we have already received allocations for various projects," he said.

Work in minor projects in Usukan costing \$6 million, as announced by Deputy Prime Minister Abdul Ghafar Baba before the by-election, had already begun.

In Johor Baru, Umno secretary-general Dato' Mohamad Rahmat said he believed former Usno party leaders could win future by-elections in the state on the Umno ticket.

Dato' Mohamed Rahmat told reporters today the victory in Usukan marked the beginning of Umno in Sabah.

12/5/1991 (NST, 13/5/1991)

KUALA LUMPUR, Sun. - Former Menteri Besar Dato' Harun Idris's resignation as Selangor Semangat 46 chairman is a sincere move, State Umno Liaison chief Tan Sri Haji Muhammad Taib said today.

"We are ready to accept him if he wishes to rejoin Umno as he has done a lot for the party in the past.

"In fact, I will be the first to back his application," he told reporters after launching the Hulu Langat Towards A Caring Society campaign at Bukit Melawati here today.

Tan Sri Muhammad said Umno members still had a lot of affection for Dato' Harun, a former Umno youth chief, and would have no qualms about accepting him back into the fold.

Dato' Harun stepped down as Selangor Semangat 46 chairman yesterday.

13/5/1991 (STAR, 15/5/1991)

SUNGAI PETANI, Sun.- Three Semangat 46 divisions leaders, including the candidate involved in a straight fight with Dato' Paduka Daim Zainudin in the last general election, today announced their decision to quit the party.

The three, Sungai Petani division leader Syed Hussien Syed Mohamad Alkaff, deputy leader Mohamad Johari Abidin who contested the Merbok parliamentary seat and division youth leader Syed Rahman Syed Faisol, cited loss of confidence in the party leadership and its struggle.

More members from the division are expected to leave the party following the resignation of State leader Dato' Zainol Abidin Johari last month.

Syed Hussien said the there reached the decision voluntary.

"We feel the party has lost direction and the recent developments in Kedah are disturbing.

"The party leadership has ignored Kedah since the general election. We are kept in the dark of party decisions and are unhappy with present state of affairs," he told a Press conference today.

Even when the state leader Dato' Zainol Johari announced his decision to quit the party, the leadership did not intervene.

15/5/1991 (NST, 16/5/1991)

KUALA LUMPUR, Wed. - Umno's victory in the Usukan by-election in Sabah last Saturday is a good sign for future of Sabah and the country, Prime Minister Dato' Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today.

Umno had expected the win but thought that the majority would be reduced because of PBS's tactic of rising feelings of hatred for the Federal Government, Umno, and peninsula, said Dr Mahathir.

"But thank to Allah, despite the widespread campaign to undermine relations with the Federal Government, the Sabah people appeared to not only want the BN, but were also willing to support Sabah Umno, "Dr Mahathir said at a Press conference upon his return from his leave overseas.

A large group of Cabinet colleagues, family members, civil servants, party members and friends were at the airport to greet the Prime Minister, who appeared cheerful as he mingled with the waiting crowd.

16/5/1991 (STAR, 17/5/1991)

KUALA LUMPUR, Thurs.- Selangor Umno will hold its annual convention from May 24 to 26 at the Islamic Teachers Training College in Bangi.

The party's state liaison committee deputy chairman Dato' Abu Hassan Omar said today the theme of the convention was Towards Uplifting the Performance of Bumiputera in the Socio-Economic and Political Fields in the 21st Century.

Dato' Abu Hassan is also Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs Minister, said he expected 500 members to attend the convention.

7/5/1991 (NST, 18/5/1991)

KUALA LUMPUR, Fri.- About 300 members of Semangat 46 from its Lembah Pantai division left the party tonight and immediately submitted applications forms to join Umno.

They were led by Sheikh Ghazali Sheikh Yusof, who left Semangat 46 before the October general election.

The forms were submitted to Lembah Pantai Umno division chief Mohamad Kamal Hussien at the division office here.

Speaking at the ceremony, Sheikh Ghazali said the Malay should rally behind Umno because it is the only party that serves their interests. He said Semangat 46 was moving too slowly for the members' liking.

Malay voters has a choice in the recent elections, and Umno's victory was a clear mandate that the Malays were behind a party that had been tested and is loyal to the interests of the community.

In BESUT, Wanita Umno chief Dato' Seri Rafidah Aziz said Semangat 46 members wishing to join the party must do so without any ulterior motive.

Dato' Seri Rafidah said this after a close-door meeting with State Wanita Umno leaders at Primula Besut Beach Resort here.

Also present her deputy, Dato' Napsiah Omar, Wanita Umno Exco members and Member of Parliament for Besut, Dato' Yusof Noor.

She said Semangat 46 was fast losing its roots, resulting in a number of its members at branch and divisional levels leaving the party to join Umno.

At the meeting, Dato' Seri Rafidah also announced the appointment of Hajah Hasanah Kassim as the State Wanita Umno chief for another term. Also re-appointed was her deputy, Hajjah Wan Aishah Ahmad.

17/5/1991 (STAR, 18/5/1991)

KOTA BARU, Fri.- Prime Minister Dato' Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad will make a one-day official visit to Kelantan on May 30.

Youth and Sports Minister Senator Haji Annuar Musa said today the Prime Minister would open the \$19 million Salor-Pasir Mas Bridge.

Kelantan Menteri Besar Haji Nik Aziz Nik Mat would be invited to the function, Haji Annuar told reporters after chairing a state Umno liaison committee meeting here.

After opening the bridge, the Prime Minister will meet heads of federal and state departments over lunch at the residence of former Menteri Besar Tan Sri Mohamed Yaakub.

Haji Annuar said that Dr Mahathir, who is visiting the state for the first time, would also meet Umno division chiefs, and youth and wanita heads in Kelantan.

Former Parti Semangat 46 members will also hand over applications to Dr Mahathir to join Umno.

Dr Mahathir is the state Umno liaison chairman.

Haji Annuar, who is the state representatives for Kelantan, also said that the Federal Development Department would appoint 480 officers to oversee federal projects in Kelantan.- BERNAMA

18/5/1991 (NST, 19/5/1991)

JOHOR BARU, Sat.- A total of 1,071 Semangat 46 members of the Sungai Benut division led by their leader Ahmad Sabran Haji Rashidi rejoined Umno today.

They announced their decision at a simple ceremony attended by Menteri Besar Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin and Umno secretary-general Dato' Mohamed Rahmat here.

They were former members of Semangat 46 branches in Sri Lalang, Felda Air Hitam, Rumah Murah Macap, Warisan Ulu Benut, Kampung Batu Enam, Kampung Isnin Maarof, Bandar Renggam, Layang-Layang and Kampung Perak.

Encik Sabran said the Sungai Benut Semangat 46 division, which had 43 branches and 4,291 members, had been dealt a severe blow with the exodus.

In KOTA BARU, former State Semangat 46 liaison Information chairman Haji Wan Wan Abu Bakar said today he is joining Umno.

Haji Wan Mohamed, 55, who has been closely associated with Semangat 46 president Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah for 30 years, was also appointed as chairman of the coordinating the return of Semangat 46 members into Umno.

His decision to rejoin Umno is expected to Semangat 46 members who had rejoined Umno as Haji Wan Mohamad is said to be very influential and had served Kelantan as a politicians since 1975.

19/5/1991 (NST, 20/5/1991)

KUALA LUMPUR, Sun.- The Titiwangsa Umno division here will soon have its own building, division chief Dato' Drs Sulaiman Mohamed said tonight.

He said the division has acquired a plot of land costing \$750,000 in Lot 214, Section 42, Kuala Lumpur to construct the building.

Speaking at a charity dinner held to raise funds for the new building here, Dato' Sulaiman expressed the hope that the cost of the land and the value of the proposed building would rise once the Kampung Baru development plan was carried out.

The proposed building will be between 13 and 17 storeys. The final decision on the structure of the building would be made later.

Dato' Sulaiman, who is also Deputy Minister in the Prime Minister's Department, said once the Kampung Baru area has been developed, the division would sell the building for the higher price.

20/5/1991 (STAR, 21/5/1991)

MALACCA, Mon.- The DAP has urged the state government to abandon its plan to set up an Umno museum.

DAP Socialist Youth chairman Lim Guan Eng said yesterday the museum, if built, would be a "misuse of power and government money."

He said he was shocked to learn that the museum was 34 "priority projects" for which the state asked \$1.2 million from the Federal Government.

Using federal funds to build a party museum was "unacceptable and undemocratic," he said, adding that the money should be spent to wipe out poverty.

22/5/1991 (STAR, 23/5/1991)

KUCHING, Wed.- Umno has no intention of spreading its wings to Sarawak as it enjoys a good relationship with the BN parties in the state, Prime Minister and Umno president Dato' Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today.

He said the BN parties in Sarawak had the same objectives as Umno.

Speaking to reporters after a cabinet meeting here, Dr Mahathir said the situation in Sabah was different because the PBS had pulled out the BN at the 11th hour during the October general election.

He said Umno had earlier stayed away from Sabah despite requests from the people in the state to set up branches here.

However, Umno changed its mind following the PBS action which affected the performance of the BN parties.

Dr Mahathir also advised BN parties in Sarawak to reduce the differences in the spirit of solidarity," he said.

Four parties from Sarawak are members of the BN at federal level but only three - PBB, SUPP and SNAP - administer the state and are better known as the BN 3 government.

The PBDS is in the opposition in the state.

In the last state elections, the PBDS stood against the state Barisan.

25/5/1991 (NST, 26/5/1991)

KOTA BARU, Sat.- The Prime Minister's date in Kelantan on Thursday to open the Pasir Mas Salor Bridge is symbolic, according to observers' interpretations of the event.

Most significantly, they said, is that the Pas-led State Government would make the most of the event to improve ties with the Federal Government to go beyond mere working relations.

Menteri Besar Haji Nik Aziz Nik Mat has welcomed the news of Dato' Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad's visit saying it proved the futility of efforts to strain Kuala Lumpur-Kota Baru relations.

Observers speculate that, if at all there is attempt to disrupt Federal-State relations as referred to by Haji Nik Aziz, it is most likely to be linked to Parti Semangat 46.

Why Semangat 46?

The observers argued that warm relations between the State Government or Pas and the Federal Government or Barisan Nasional (BN) would only leave Semangat 46 out in the cold.

Kelantan is the only State where Semangat 46 - a component in the Angkatan Perpaduan Ummah coalition which ousted the BN State Government in the general election last October - has a hold.

An observer said losing its grips in Kelantan because of good State-Federal relations would cost Semangat 46's future in the State and elsewhere.

Sports and Youth Minister Senator Haji Annuar Musa, who is the Federal Government's representative for Kelantan, has said that Haji Nik would be invited to the bridge opening ceremony during Dato' Seri Dr Mahathir's visit.

Although he has visited Kelantan before on party matters, it would be Dato' Seri Dr Mahathir's first official visit as Prime Minister since Kelantan fell to the Angkatan coalition in the general election.

Of the visit, Nik Aziz had said that it proved that the democracy prevails and is practised.

Nik Aziz has said he was willing to meet the Prime Minister either here or in Kuala Lumpur and indicated that he would attend the bridge opening ceremony.

Bachok Umno division head Haji Ahmad Shahabudin Mohamed Noor described the visit as testimony of the Prime Minister's integrity as a leader and that he was not being vindictive over the BN's defeat in Kelantan.

The local business community too is also looking forwards to Dato' Seri Dr Mahathir's visit.

Secretary of the Malaysian Malay Chamber of Commerce and Industry Kelantan branch, Zain Sulong said the visit would help restore good relations between the Federal and State Government.

Encik Zain felt that positive bilateral ties between the Federal and State Government would herald more development programmes in Kelantan.

During the visit, Dato' Seri Dr Mahathir, who is Umno president, is also expected to receive application forms from a large numbers to join Umno.

Haji Wan Mohamad Bakar, who heads the co-ordination committee to accept Semangat 46 members into Umno, estimated that some 30,000 application forms would be handed over to the party president.

Haji Ahmad Shahabudin, a veteran Kelantan Umno leader, said the exercise would not be a political gimmick as the forms were to be submitted "outside the general election season."

"Normally, such handing over application forms is done during the run-up to an election. In this case, it will be done after over eight months since the general election," he said. - BERNAMA.

25/5/1991 (STAR, 26/5/1991)

KUALA LUMPUR, Sat.- The Umno Supreme Council has appointed nine party leaders as state deputy liaison chiefs.

Umno president Dato' Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today only the Federal Territory deputy chief had yet to be appointed pending consultation with the FT head Abdul Ghafar Baba.

Those appointed were Encik Azmi Khalid for Perlis; Senator Haji Annuar Musa (Kelantan); Dato' Dr Yusof Nor (Terengganu); Dato' Dr Ibrahim Saad (Penang); Dato' Sabbaruddin Chik (Pahang); Dato' Abu Hassan Omar (Selangor); Dato' Mohamad Khalid Yunus (Negeri Sembilan); Encik Nasir Manaf (Malacca); and Dato' Mohamad Rahmat (Johor).

Dr Mahathir said the supreme council was briefed on the formation and concept of the EAEG and 2020 target to make Malaysia a developed nation.

He also briefed council members on the cabinet's approval of the national OPP at its last meeting in Kuching.

On the party's membership, Dr Mahathir said Umno now had more than 1.5 million members, including those from Sabah.

He said Umno would carry out its struggle in Sabah its own pace and not hastily as its long-term goal was to secure only genuine support from the people there.

He said Umno must explain to the people of Sabah its objectives so that its future members and supporters would those who truly understood its struggles.

"We don't just want to be the state government but we believe Umno is for good of the people in Sabah, particularly those who support it."

Dr Mahathir said the party would decide whether to appoint Sabah Umno representatives to the supreme council when the time came.

Umno would make such as appointment if allowed by its constitution, he said.

He also announced the acceptance of former Hamim national youth chief Madla Yob and 72 Semangat 46 branch leaders from Pasir Mas, Kelantan, into the party.

Encik Madla, 36, said he joined Umno as he felt that the party was more realistic in its political goals.

He said other Hamim members would also be joining Umno.

Encik Madla said he planned to meet Hamim members throughout the country to explain the importance of Umno in the nation's development.

27/5/1991 (NST, 28/5/1991)

KOTA BARU, Mon. - Prime Minister Dato' Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad will be given a full Kelantan traditional welcome when he opens the Pasir Mas-Salor bridge on Thursday.

Youth and Sports Minister Senator Haji Anuar Musa said Dr Mahathir would arrive at the Sultan Ismail airport at 8.45 a.m to begin his one-day official visit. He will be met by Umno leaders.

The Prime Minister and his entourage will take a short rest at the residence of former Kelantan Menteri Besar Tan Sri Mohamad Yaacob before preceding to Pasir Mas to officiate the opening of the bridge.

In Pasir Mas town, Dr Mahathir will be accompanied by 500 motorcyclists to the edge of the bridge.

There, the Prime Minister and his entourage will ride on 20 trishaws, accompanied by 100 flags carriers, 180 Malay warriors, 100 youths carrying the Bunga Manggar and 100 pulut semangat bearers, across the one-km bridge.

30/5/1991 (NST, 31/5/1991)

KOTA BARU. Thurs.- Prime Minister Dato' Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad today called on the Kelantan people to accept development brought to them by the Federal Government as these are sincere efforts to improve their lot.

He said the Federal Government would continue to develop Kelantan as it had done in the past.

Speaking at the opening of the \$19 million Pasir Mas-Salor bridge, about 13km from here, the Prime Minister said the project was yet another proof of such effort.

Present at the colourful ceremony was the Menteri Besar of Kelantan, Haji Nik Aziz Nik Mat. Also present were Works Minister Datuk Leo Moggie, Youth and Sports Minister Senator Haji Annuar Musa and Deputy Works Minister Kerk Choo Ting.

In a jovial mood, the Prime Minister said: "I hope nobody would to try to swim across the river just because they do not want to use the bridge built by the Federal Government."

The large crowd made up of BN and Pas supporters broke into laughter.

The new 630-meter bridge connects Kota Baru with Pasir Mas and Rantau Panjang.

The crowd had obviously anticipated the Prime Minister to make reference to relations between the Federal Government and the Pad-led State Government, but Dr Mahathir choose instead to take a soothing and sometimes philosophical approach.

However, that did not stop the audience from making their own interpretation on his hour-long speech as was evidenced by the frequent applause and laughter.

State Umno leaders commenting on the event, said the audience from both parties had expected the Prime Minister to make strong remarks.

The Prime Minister said whatever the Federal Government was doing in terms of development could not be construed as anti-Islam because it had always been committed towards bringing developments to the poor.

He said the BN Government believed in creating as many wealthy people as possible so that they could be taxed to help fund development projects meant for the poor.

The BN Government, said the Prime Minister, felt that it was its responsibility to take the lead in helping the poor so that they could free themselves from poverty.

30/5/1991 (NST, 31/5/1991)

KOTA BARU, Thurs.- Kelantan Umno liaison chief Dato' Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad today announced the appointment of former State Exco member Haji Ahmad Shahabudin Haji Mohamed Noor as the state liaison secretary.

He also announced the appointment of former Deputy Works Minister Dato' Dr Nik Hussien Abdul Rahman as treasurer, and former Senator Hassan Harun, who is businessman, as information officer.

Dr Mahathir, who is also Prime Minister, announced the appointments when he addressed Kelantan Umno divisional, Youth and Wanita and its chiefs at party State headquarters today.

In his hour-long speech, Dr Mahathir reminded the leaders to be fully committed to the struggle and objectives of the party.

He said they would never be able to rebuild the party in Kelantan if they failed to adhere to party principles.

He dismissed claims by Pas leaders and members that Pas was an Islamic party, saying that Pas was merely using Islam as a tool to achieve its political objection.

"No party can claim to be an Islamic party, he said, adding that Umno had done much more to protect and promote Islam in the state.

"Umno has been looking after the interest of Islam long before Pas was set up."

Dr Mahathir also referred to recent developments in West Asia which clearly showed that Pas was inconsistent and confused. During the Iran-Iraq war in the 80s, Pas was strongly behind Iran, and commended Iraq as un-Islamic, he said.

However, when Iraq invaded Kuwait last year, Pas stood behind Iraq. It even recruited about 3,000 of its members to help Iraq.

Member of Parliament for Pasir Mas Haji Ibrahim Ali, who quit Semangat 46 to rejoin Umno, handed over forms from 19,076 applicants to join the party.

KUALA SELANGOR, Fri - Kuala Selangor Pas chief Muhayat Haji Yusuf, 38, and division assistant secretary Abdul Rahman Mahfuz, 41, have applied to join Umno.

Encik Muhayat, who was also a state Pas liaison committee member since 1982, and Encik Abdul Rahman handed over their application forms to join Umno to Kuala Selangor Umno division chief Dato' Abu Hassan Omar.

Encik Muhayat, who applied to join the Sungai Tinggi Kanan Baroh Umno branch said he decided to join Umno because Pas leaders were not sincere in their struggle.

"After more than 16 years in the party, I realised that the leaders have been using religion to gain political inroads.

"They are also inconsistent in their approach.

"For instance, they claimed that Umno's activities were unIslamic and that they cannot work with Umno leaders but they do not mind working closely with Semangat 46 and other parties," he said.

Encik Abdul Rahman, a Pas member for 16 years, said he joined Umno on his own free will.

"I have lost faith in Pas. Umno and its leaders are more capable in leading the Malays," he said.

He added that about 600 Pas members in six of the 11 Pas branches in Kuala Selangor were keen to join Umno.

In his welcoming speech, Dato' Abu Hassan expressed hope that more Pas members would join Umno.

30/5/1991 (NST. 1/6/1991)

BUTTERWORTH, Sun.- The date for the Prai by-election may not be fixed yet but chief contenders, the Barisan Nasional and the DAP, have gone into high gear in their pre-election campaign to wrest the seat.

Leading the BN assault is Chief Minister Dr Koh Tsu Koon and his Deputy Dr Ibrahim Saad who separately visited areas in the constituency at several meet-the-people sessions.

Although Dr Koh's visit did not make any direct reference to the forthcoming by-election, his visits to Chai Leng Park on Friday showed that he was taking efforts to win the people's heart.

The same day, Dr Ibrahim, who is also the BN by-election operations director, visited several areas including Bagan Dalam, Kuala Prai and Ujung Batu.

During his visits, Dr Ibrahim said the BN would have to woo fence-sitters and sympathizers because party members made up only a quarters of the total electorate.

He urged all Umno branches to mobilise their machinery to ensure a BN victory, adding that five years under the DAP was enough.

A by-election was imminent after its incumbent assemblyman S. Asamaley resigned following the death of his wife.

Today, DAP leaders including State party chairman Karpal Singh and party deputy Secretary-general P. Patto greeted shoppers at the Berkat Supermarket during its sixth anniversary sale.

Then they proceed to Chai Leng Park area.

5/6/1991 (NST. 6/6/1991)

KOTA KINABALU, Wed.- Parti Bersatu Sabah, whose leaders has been lately voicing interest to re-join the Barisan Nasional, were today urged to dissolve the party and join forces with Sabah Umno.

Sabah Umno deputy liaison chairman Tun Datu Mustapha Harun said by joining Umno, the PBS' desire to be back in the national coalition could be achieved.

"Such move will be in the interest of the people of Sabah and political stability in the state, he told reporters at the State Umno liaison office here.

He was responding to a statement yesterday by PBS vice-president Datuk Clarence Bongkos Malakun who said that his party has nothing to be ashamed of if it wanted to re-join BN in the interest of the State.

Tun Datu Mustapha, who is lone State Assemblyman (Usukan), said given the present situation, the PBS' application to rejoin BN might not be entertained.

He said the PBS' application might also run into opposition by several other members.

"The national coalition leadership is still hurt by the PBS action to pull out from BN just five days before the October general election.

"I personally think that BN leaders will still have reservations about the PBS re-joining the coalition," he said.

Tun Datu Mustapha, a former Sabah Yang di-Pertua Negeri and former Chief Minister, said he would give his full support and co-operation should the PBS leaders and members decide to join Sabah Umno.

"But I will not support the PBS as a party re-joining BN," the deputy State Umno chief said.

On Sabah Umno, Tun Datu Mustapha said that the State liaison office had submitted about 70,000 application forms to the Umno headquarters for approval.

The liaison office is also in the process of registering some 130,000 former Usno members as Umno members.

6/6/1991 (STAR, 7/6/1991)

KOTA KINABALU, Thurs.- Former Parti Berjaya president Datuk Haji Mohamed Noor Mansoor has urged Sabah Bumiputeras to join Umno to help the party rebuild the bridge between Kota Kinabalu and Kuala Lumpur.

"With a bigger membership, it will be easier to rebuild the bridge destroyed by the PBS, he said.

Datuk Noor, who disclosed today that he had applied to join the Petagas Umno division two months ago, said Umno, through the BN, had shown that it was fair to all races.

He said he made up his mind to be "part and parcel" of Umno right from the Prime Minister Dato' Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad announced the party's entry into Sabah last year.

However, he said he decided to hold on because of initial problems faced by the party.

"If I had joined then, it would have only added to the confusion," aid.

6/7/1991 (STAR, 7/6/1991)

KUALA LUMPUR, Thurs.- The return of former Semangat members to Umno is expected to set off a series of challenges for key posts at branch level.

Umno branch annual meeting will be held over the weekend.

Much of the attention will focus on Kelantan, followed by Johor and Perak, the states with a large number of former Semangat members.

Branch leaders in all 13 divisions in Kelantan are likely to face serious challengers, mostly former Semangat members.

Many who used to lead branches before they opted for Semangat after Umno was declared illegal feel they could reclaim their former posts since they returned with a large following.

"This scenario has changed Kelantan Umno and because of this many branch leaders are panicky since they are not sure they will be able to hold on to their posts.

"Many begrudge the return of those from Semangat whom they regard as traitors who abandoned the party in time of need. However, they could not do much since the top leadership has agreed to allow this people back," said one branch leader.

The focus on Kelantan is understandable since all Umno candidates were drubbed at the polls last year. Party leaders would hard pressed to answer queries from members who would want to know what went wrong.

Kelantan Umno, with a new set of officials with Datuk Seri Dr. Mahathir at the helm will find the going tough as the members would be eager to test the new leadership.

"Members would surely want to test the ability of the new leaders, especially Haji Anuar Musa whom many see as the man being groomed to take over the state Umno," said a branch leader.

With division elections not due until next year this year's meetings are to centre around the party's performance at the general elections last year and efforts to unite the Malays under Umno.

Aspirants for the division top posts are expected to lie low this time around. They would instead play their role in ensuring that their supporters are elected to key positions in branches.

7/6/1991 (NST, 8/6/91)

KOTA BARU, Fri- Kelantan Umno Youth wants the detention of the eight Kelantan Forestry Officers by Thai authorities for allegedly felling logs to be settled through the diplomatic channels.

Youth leader Kamaruddin Jaafar said that it was illogical to accuse the officers of stealing the logs as they were on official duty in Malaysian territory.

He contended that the Thai authorities should have, after detaining the officers, handed them to the Malaysian Embassy in Bangkok and treated them like government officials.

"It should have been sufficient for the eight men to be released on the Malaysian Government bond and they should not have been taken to court and had to be bailed out by the Kelantan Government," he told reporters after chairing the movement's meeting.

Describing the arrest as first such case, Encik Kamaruddin said there were some irregularities pertaining the arrest and such action could harm the cordial relations between Malaysia and Thailand.

Meanwhile the incident has become the talk of the town.

Some quarters have asked why the charges could not be dropped. Others said that if the eight were brought to trial, it was actually the Kelantan Government which should be on trial because it had directed its officers to check the JelîSukhirin border area.

MP for Pasir Mas Haji Ibrahim Ali said, "The State Government should have left the negotiations to Wisma Putra."

9/6/1991 (NST, 10/6/91)

KEPALA BATAS, Sun.- Umno members have been urged to be prepared in facing future challenges particularly the implementation of programmes under the sixth Malaysian Plan, party vice president, Dato' Abdullah Haji Ahmad Badawi said today.

He said Umno members should pool their resources together and exploit available opportunities to the maximum to ensure they benefit from the programmes.

In line with realising Prime Minister Dato' Seri Dr. Mahathir's Vision 2020, Dato' Abdullah who is also Foreign Minister said the five year plan would be the start of an era of high challenges.

"It is therefore vital that the people especially the Malays, be prepared to progress with the country's development," he said.

Speaking to reporters after a meeting with 100 party members at a religious school here this morning Datuk Abdullah advised Umno members to stay out of disputes and squabbles for the sake of progress and unity.

"We cannot afford to see our party in disarray resulting from our own mistakes thus affecting our positions the major thrust of the Barisan National Government.

Stressing the importance of the Sixth Malaysian Plan and the achievement of the Vision 2020, he said that the Government's policies were geared towards achieving a developed nation status.

Dato' Abdullah who is also Kepala Batas Umno divisional chief, urged party members to fully understand this aspiration by assisting the government in safeguarding peace and harmony among the people of different races, religious and political beliefs.

"Only with the prevailing political and economic stability, the country will progress accordingly benefiting both the rakyat and the Government."

9/6/1991 (NST, 10/6/91)

KUANTAN, Sun - The Kelantan Government has issued a warning to 50 Kota Bahru Municipal Council officers to quit as Umno members or lose their jobs.

Umno Youth Leader Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak said the officers including a state Umno Youth leader, were given the ultimatum by the State Government recently.

"The Pas Government has threatened to sack them and now the 50 officers are having a hard time," Dato' Seri Najib who is the Defence Minister told a gathering of representatives from various voluntary bodies here last night.

He said the Youth leader had contacted him and briefed him on the matter.

"I have told him and rest of the officers not to quit Umno and to state their stand firmly."

He said the Kelantan Government, realising the Federal Government and Umno's involvement in the issue did not immediately sack the officers.

11/6/1991 (NST, 12/6/1991)

JOHORE BAHRU, Tues - The Umno supreme council has sent show cause letter to more than 100 party members to answer allegations that they had supported rival parties during last year's general elections.

Umno secretary general Dato' Mohamad Rahmat said these members, some of whom were said to have contested the election under

rival party tickets have until next week to answer before being called before the party's disciplinary committee.

"The supreme council will decide on their cases at the end of July based on the findings of the disciplinary hearings," he told reporters after launching the formation of the Persatuan Anak Jawa Johor Sri Gading branch in Parit Raja last night.

"Those who face disciplinary action are liable to forfeit their rights to attend, speak or contest at branch or divisional levels under section five of the party's constitution."

He said these members who faced the maximum penalty of suspension or expulsion from the party had been suspended from all party posts pending the supreme council's decision.

Those who had their names nominated at branch levels are automatically disqualified, he added.

Dato' Mohammed, however, refused to say whether the disciplinary inquiries involved former Semangat 46 members who have now joined Umno, but said no supreme council members were involved.

Dato' Mohammed added that all matters concerning the suspension and expulsion of members who infringed party regulations could only be decided by the party disciplinary committee.

"Even though Umno has an open attitude in this matter, those who rejoin Umno must be honest and disciplined," he said.

16/6/1991 (NST, 17/6/91)

KEPALA BATAS, Sun - Umno vice president Dato' Abdullah Haji Ahmad Badawi is confident that the position of the Barisan Nasional will be strengthened after the new national development policy is implemented to replace the New Economic Policy (NEP).

He said the policy which would provide the basic thrust for the future development of the country was in line with the Prime Minister's 2020 Vision.

"I am sure that the people will be more receptive to the ideas as outlined in the policy and through this the people will continue to give their undivided support to the government.

"It is hoped that with the implementation of the policy, the country will become a developed nation as envisaged by the Prime Minister," he said.

However, he urged the people to help make the country strong and stable to complement Government efforts.

Datuk Abdullah was speaking after opening an Islamic Family Symposium jointly organised by State Religious Council and Kepala Batas 4B Movement at Sekolah Menengah Dato' Haji Ahmad Badawi today.

In Ipoh, International Trade and Industry Minister Dato' Seri Rafidah Aziz said today that the Outline Perspective Plan has been formulated to do away with the negative aspects of business ventures.

She said the Government wanted to ensure there are no "sleeping partners" as all partners have a role to play in the progress of the company and the nation's economy.

Speaking to reporters before chairing the State Wanita Umno meeting at the party headquarters, she said non-Bumiputera partners should share their expertise with Bumiputera partners to achieve success.

Dato' Seri Rafidah said the Government would take immediate measures if any minority groups were lagging in development during the implementation of the OPP.

She added the OPP would be used to eradicate poverty and restructure society to bring about a balanced distribution of socio-economic wealth.

16/6/1991 (STAR, 17/6/91)

BUKIT MERTAJAM, Sun - The 30 per cent Bumiputera quota in wealth distribution will not be an obsession in the Outline Perspective Plan to be tabled in parliament tomorrow.

"The percentage is not an obsession, but the plan will emphasize more on active Bumiputera participation in national development," Umno vice-president and Finance Minister Dato' Seri Anwar Ibrahim said today.

He said the plan would defend the national development policy, which included poverty eradication and restructuring the society.

He assured Bumiputeras their rights would be protected and urged them not to doubt the sincerity of the OPP and the Vision 2020.

The Penang Umno Chief said that both plans provided an opportunity for Semangat 46 members to be reunited under a single banner.

"They should make a decision to join Umno now. It will reduce politicking and we can collectively concentrate to develop the economy," he said.

He said the large number of Semangat 46 members who applied to join Umno had created some resistance from Umno grassroots members.

He added, however, that "the headquarters has guaranteed that they would not be prevented" from joining the party.

11/6/1991 (STAR, 12/6/91)

BATU PAHAT Tues - More than 100 Umno members are under investigation for allegedly working against the Barisan Nasional in the last general election.

Party secretary general Datuk Mohammad Rahmat told newsman last night that the supreme council had directed the disciplinary committee to investigate the members after receiving complaints from branches and divisions.

He said all those alleged to have breached party regulations had been issued show cause letters by the committee to explain why disciplinary action should not be taken against them.

"The council has also suspended them from any posts held by the affected members in the party pending the outcome of the investigation.

"By invoking clause 5 (2) of the party constitution the council has also decided that these members can only observe the annual general meeting and cannot vote or contest any posts pending the results of the investigation.

"The respective branches and divisions have been notified of this accordingly so that they can observe the necessary rules at the coming branch general meetings," he added.

Dato' Mohammed was speaking to reporters after launching the Sri Gading Persatuan Anak Jawa (Fajar) in Parit Raja, near here.

Dato' Mohammed said the 100 held various posts in the party at divisional and branch levels but could not confirm if any of them were office bearers in the state liaison committees.

"We have evidences of cases where some of the members had contested against Barisan in the last election.

"The other allegations are of members who had worked against the Barisan by supporting or assisting opposition party candidates in their respective localities," he added.

Dato' Mohammed said the disciplinary committee issued show cause letters on May 3 and the members were given 14 days to submit their replies and explanation on why action should not be taken against them.

He said the committee would meet in the next week to study the explanations before submitting its findings to the supreme council for action.

"The supreme council will meet on July 27 and this is one of the matters on the agenda which will be decided. If the allegations are substantiated those affected will face disciplinary action.

"The nature of the action will be decided by the council depending on the seriousness of the case. We have to see the explanations and the findings of the committee first," he added.

Dato' Mohammed also said the supreme council has decided that branch and divisional meetings will not be held in Sabah this year, in view of the pro team status and infancy of the party in state.

"The council has decided that general meetings for branches and divisions in Sabah would be held next year instead to intensify the membership exercise in Sabah.

"We already have received 120,000 membership application forms and tens of thousands more are being processed in Sabah at present," he added.

15/6/1991 (NST, 16/6/91)

BATU PAHAT Sat - Deputy Prime Minister Encik Ghafar Baba said today the new national development policy - the successor to the New Economic Policy - to be tabled in Parliament by the Prime Minister on Monday has been endorsed by all Barisan Nasional component parties.

He said the opposition parties might oppose the proposal as they known for raising issues just for gaining political millage.

Encik Ghafar said that the Barisan Nasional Government has always implemented its programmes for the benefit of the multi racial people.

"In some aspects Malaysia has done better than other countries," he said at the 45th Umno celebration organised by the Sri Gading Umno division in Parit Raja, 25km from here.

Later, when speaking to reporters, Encik Ghafar said the Barisan Nasional component parties achieved consensus on the new national development policy after several lengthy discussions on the policy to replace the NEP.

He said there were some minor hitches initially, but these were overcome in the spirit of co-operation and in the interest of goodwill of all the people in Malaysia.

"Every component party in the Barisan Nasional was naturally putting the interest of their ethnic group first, but for the sake of the country, all these parties agreed to a common formula" he said.

In his speech, Encik Ghafar who is also Umno deputy president, said the country's ten per cent annual economic growth was a success not many countries could achieve.

On Umno, he said the party had survived all sorts of challenges and had grown in membership and strength.

"In view of this, I would like to call on those who left the party to return to the fold as it is only through Umno that they can serve the people effectively."

He said the party had been fair to all, including those who represented the opposition, by providing all facilities to them and their children.

Menteri Besar Tan Sri Haji Muhyiddin Yassin said that the Johore Government would set up a Bumiputera entrepreneurs development division soon to coordinate effort to help Bumiputeras.

16/6/1991 (NST, 17/6/1991)

KUALA LUMPUR Thurs - More than 500 people will attend the fifth Selangor Umno convention from May 24-26.

The three days convention to be held at the Islamic Teachers Training College in Bangi, will be opened by Selangor Menteri Besar Tan Sri Muhammad Haji Muhammad Taib.

Convention chairman, Dato' Abu Hassan Omar said today the gathering would discuss, among others, the socio economic level of the Bumiputeras.

The convention was also a step towards realising the Prime Minister's aim of transforming the country into a developed nation by 2020, he told a press conference here.

Dato' Abu Hassan who is also the Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs Minister, said the state Umno would like to see more Umno members and Bumiputeras playing a part in further improving the economy of the state.

Perbadanan Nasional Berhad (PNB) chairman Dato' Khalil Ibrahim will present a paper entitled "Improving The Performance Of The Bumiputera Entrepreneurs By The 21st Century at the convention."

"We hope that thorough the paper, which stresses investment, Umno members can be made to understand the importance of inculcating the love for making investments among Bumiputeras."

17/6/1991 (NST, 18/6/1991)

KUALA LUMPUR, Fri. - About 300 members of Semangat 46 from its Lembah Pantai division left the party tonight and immediately submitted application forms to join Umno.

They were led by Sheikh Ghazali Sheikh Yusof, who left Semangat 46 before the October general election.

The forms were submitted to the Lembah Pantai Umno division chief Mohammad Kamal Hussein at the division office here.

Speaking at the ceremony, Sheikh Ghazali said the Malays should rally behind Umno because it is the only party that serves their interests. He said Semangat 46 was moving too slowly for the members' liking.

Malay voters had a choice in the recent elections, and Umno's victory was a clear mandate that the Malays were behind a party that had been tested and is loyal to the interest of the community.

In Besut, Wanita Umno chief, Dato' Seri Rafidah Aziz said Semangat 46 members wishing to join Umno must do so without any ulterior motive.

Dato' Seri Rafidah said this after a closed-door meeting with State Wanita Umno leaders at Primula Besut Beach Resort here.

Also present were her deputy, Dato' Napsiah Omar, Wanita Umno exco members, and member of parliament for Besut, Dato' Yusuf Noor.

She said Semangat 46 was fast losing its roots, resulting in a number of its members at branch and divisional level leaving the party to join Umno.

At the meeting, Dato' Seri Rafidah also announced the appointment of Hajjah Hasanah Kasim as the State Wanita Umno chief for a another term. Also reappointed was her deputy, Hajjah Wan Asiah Ahmad.

20/6/1991 (STAR, 21/6/1991)

KUALA LUMPUR Thurs. - Umno Youth and the biggest Soviet Union youth organization CYO have agreed in principle to sign a joined memorandum of understanding to promote business and friendship between both countries.

Secretary of its international bureau Haji Mustapha Yaakub said the signing of the memorandum would be held in Moscow in September.

Among the areas to be covered under the memorandum are :

- * An exchange programme for junior politicians;
- * Cultural exchange;
- * To encourage young entrepreneurs to take advantage of the business opportunities; and
- * To promote tourism industry through exchange tours.

21/6/1991 (STAR, 22/6/1991)

KUALA LUMPUR Fri. - Umno Youth has described the New Development Policy (NDP) as a dynamic mechanism which will shape the nation's socio-economic development.

Its leader Dato' Seri Najib Tun Razak said today the policy's influence on the country's economic development pace will give emphasis to social justice.

"The measure of justice will be reflected by its desire to correct the economic imbalance in relation to racial composition," he said in a statement.

Dato' Seri Najib said it was essential for a policy to give priority towards the creation of a Bumiputera managerial and entrepreneurial force as this objective was not achieved during the New Economic Policy (NEP). "Efforts to create this force must be stepped up in view of the international outlook for the entrepreneurs to be more resilient, competitive and highly technological-motivated," he said.

He added that the NDP should emphasize the private sector's role in providing training in terms of administrative skills for Bumiputera entrepreneurs.

On the NDP's privatisation plan of public enterprises and agencies as an instrument to restructure equity, Dato' Seri Najib said the majority (of equity) should be reserved for the Bumiputeras.

The movement also viewed NDP's efforts to eradicate poverty among all races, in a bid to restructure society and to eliminate racial identification from their economy functions, as a continuance from the NEP.

22/6/1991 (STAR, 23/6/1991)

Umno branch elections are only halfway through in Johor, but party members are already talking about the next party election and candidates who are likely to make it in what is termed the **"succession assembly"**.

The main topic in coffee shops and in Umno meetings is about candidates and politicians at the national levels and budding politicians from Johor. But, ultimately the talk leads to how former Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Musa Hitam fits into all this, if at all.

There has been intense speculation that the former party deputy president is making a comeback to politics next year.

Most of Datuk Musa's staunch supporters at the grassroot level say he would start by **"returning to lead and strengthen Johor Umno at the helm"**.

Many Umno veteran leaders are wondering what the talk about **"strengthening"** Johor Umno means especially when they point to the fact that Johor Umno has been recognised by the central party leadership as being one of the most stable in the country.

A former Johor Umno leader said the reference seemed to be misdirected as Menteri Besar Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin has proven his political leadership in Johor by leading Barisan Nasional to victory in all 18 parliamentary seats and 32 of the 36 state seats in the last general election.

Many of those who believe Dato' Musa will return are unable to back up their arguments.

One division leader said Datuk Musa was definitely making a comeback as Johor has "lost" its representation at the higher ranks of the party ladder.

However he was unable to say if Dato' Musa had indicated his intention to return to politics.

Some others admitted that they were pushing for Dato' Musa's comeback but they had not got any word from the man himself.

But finally, they all point to Dato' Shahrir Abdul Samad the Johor Baru Umno division chief.

"He should know - he was the one who initiated the move for branches in Johor to push for Dato' Musa to be honoured for his contribution and services to Umno is the general consensus."

Dato' Shahrir however, would only say: "I only started the ball rolling calling on Umno branches to persuade the Johor Umno to honour Dato' Musa for his years of service to the Johor Umno."

"There is nothing more to that. But now everyone is asking and even saying that Dato' Musa is making a comeback. You know as well as I what Dato' Musa said about politics when he left for his overseas duty (as Malaysia's envoy to the United Nations). The rest is up to you to conclude."

A division leader in Johor ascribed the feelings of wanting Dato' Musa to return to "the craving to see a Johor Leader as party vice president and nothing more than that."

"I have been following this development very closely and many members who are backing this theories just want Johor to regain some glory at the national level," he added.

A state Umno leader said: "Even if Dato' Musa does make a comeback, it is highly unlikely that it will be at the state level, as Dato' Musa has praised Tan Sri Muhyiddin time and again for uniting and strengthening Umno in Johor.

"But look at it this way - even if the whole thing is just a rumour, it has helped boost morale among Umno members to work harder the next time to ensure that a Johor leader makes it to the national scene.

"In the last election, Tan Sri Muhyiddin could have done better if Johor Umno had been united. Some were uncertain while others took it for granted and did not work hard enough," he added.

Veteran leaders admit the speculation would continue until Datuk Musa himself made a public statement.

Said one veteran politician who served with Dato' Musa, "Till then I'll enjoy listening to the stories. They add excitement to the scene. I think Dato' Musa is also enjoying this."

25/5/1991 (STAR, 26/6/1991)

MUAR, Tues.- Umno permanent chairman Tan Sri Sulaiman Ninam Shah has refuted allegations that he has been trying to topple Menteri Besar Tan Sri Muhyiddin Mohamed Yassin as Johor Umno chief.

"I was not planning to topple or undermine Tan Sri Muhyiddin's leadership when I asked my son, Dato' Kadar Shah, to rejoin Muar Umno division," he told more than 80 branch leaders at a Hari Raya Haji gathering here last night.

He said there were rumours that was involved with certain groups in Johor trying to undermine Tan Sri Muhyiddin's leadership in the state.

Tan Sri Sulaiman said Dato' Kadar's recent return to the Muar Umno division, which is lead by Tan Sri Muhyiddin's brother Aziz Yassin, was seen as a move to challenge Encik Aziz's influence in the division.

He said certain Umno members in Johor also spread rumours that his son was trying to erode Tan Sri Muhyiddin's political power in Johor, especially in the Muar division, when Dato' Kadar rejoined Umno.

"I want party members in the division and the state to know that I will not let my son go against Encik Aziz or create problem for the Muar Umno division.

"Let me make my stand clear, I will not let (Dato' Kadar) or anyone else in Johor topple Tan Sri Muhyiddin as I have high regard for his (Tan Sri Muhyiddin's) leadership.

"Johor needs Tan Sri Muhyiddin not only to promote the state's economic growth, but also to help strengthen the party in facing future political challenges of the Malays," he said.

Dato' Kadar, a prominent businessman, was a strong Semangat 46 supporters but left with former Deputy Prime Minister Dato' Musa Hitam when Parti Semangat 46 was formed.

Dato' Kadar later said that he rejoined the Muar Umno division to help strengthen the party.

25/6/1991 (STAR, 26/6/1991)

KUALA LUMPUR, Tues.- The prospect of having top cope with the two successive state by-elections has put a damper on the Umno branch elections in Kelantan.

Several former Semangat 46 members expecting to contest the branch elections have privately said they are opting out.

Sources said they were advised by their leaders to stay out in anticipation of the Limbongan and Sungai Pinang by-elections.

Those involved are in the Pasir Putih and Tumpat divisions. Limbongan and Sungai Pinang lie within the Pasir Putih and Tumpat constituencies respectively.

"They have decided to refrain from contesting so as not to jeopardise BN's chances victory, should by-elections be called," said one source.

They are said to be strong supporters of Haji Wan Najib and Haji Nordin Salleh, the incumbents for Limbongan and Sungai Pinang.

This new twist comes as a relief to several branch chairmen in the Pasir Putih and Tumpat divisions. They were expected to face stiff opposition from former Semangat members who recently rejoined Umno.

Sources regard the move as a compromise by the former Semangat group to extract co-operation from the others when by-elections finally come around.

"They have no choice as it is the only way to get co-operation from the others, many of whom still hold grudges against them for crossing over the opposition," said another source.

28/6/1991 (STAR, 29/6/1991)

MUAR, Fri.- Umno will petition the High Court to obtain from the Official Assignee all properties that belonged to the registered party.

"We are now certain that more than 51 per cent of members from the deregistered party have joined the new one," Menteri Besar Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin said here today.

He said the new Umno was a political continuation of the old party but according to the new law, Umno needed to have more than half of its old members in the new party.

His mean that about 760,000 members in the party would have to take statutory declarations that they were members of the old party.

30/6/1991 (STAR, 1/7/1991)

KUALA LUMPUR, Sun.- The two-day Kelantan State Assembly sitting beginning on Wednesday is seen as an acid test for the loose Pas-Semangat 46 coalition government.

According to a state assemblyman, the Pas-led state government has never been more taxed since two Semangat assemblymen quit their party for Umno.

"This is because it is in two minds as to what course of action to take.

"It can proceed and declare the seat vacant. This will surely make Semangat happy but it will not be a wise move.

"On the other hand, the Pas-led government can wait for the outcome of court action filed by the assemblymen before taking further action.

"However, this will surely make Semangat unhappy as they will want to save face and it can only be achieved once the seats are declared vacant," he said.

Sources said the complex nature of the problem had put Pas and Semangat in a blind, as action to declare the seats vacant could turn out to be invalid since the matter had yet to be decided by the courts.

"This will surely prove to be embarrassing for the Kelantan government. It may not seem to be a big problem now but it could well open up a Pandora's Box if not handled properly, said one sources.

Another sources said that any action to **"bulldoze"** through the State Assembly could well lead a constitutional crisis in Kelantan.

The duo, Haji Nordin Salleh (Sungai Pinang) and Haji Wan Najib Mohamad (Limbongan) quit Semangat and rejoined Umno in April. They were joined by Pasir Mas MP Haji Ibrahim Ali.

To check further defections, the Kelantan Government passed an anti-hopping bill on April 25.

Since then, Haji Nordin and Haji Wan Najib have gone to the courts to seek legal redress.

30/7/1991 (NST. 1/7/1991)

SEMPORNA, Sun.- The non-Muslim Bumiputeras and Chinese in Sabah should accept Umno's in establishing itself in the State.

Umno Deputy President Ghafar Baba said Umno's decision to come to Sabah was to ensure the return of the Barisan Nasional Government in the State for the good all races.

"The Christians and Chinese should not fear Umno's entry as we have always upheld freedom of religion in the country for the past 30 years," he told reporters here before returning to Kuala Lumpur today.

Encik Ghafar, who is the Deputy Prime Minister, said that all races were given equal treatment in development and in the eradication of poverty.

He also advised the 11 Usno State Assemblymen to submit to him the list of development projects and amount of allocation the needed.

He was confident BN, with the support of the non-Muslim Bumiputeras and the Chinese, would be able to wrest control of the State Government from the PBS in the next State election.

Replying to another questions, he pledged that the Federal Government would assist the 11 Usno Assemblymen in developing their respective areas which had been neglected by the PBS Government.

The 11 Usno Assemblymen are Said Haji Senang (Merotai), Askalani Abdul Rahim (Lahad Datu), Dayang Mahani Tun Pengeran Rafee (Lumadan), Karim Bujang (Bongawan), Haji Noor (Sulaman), Haji Pitting Ali (Sekong), Aklee Aabas (Sukau), Datu Amir Kahar (Banggi), Datu Ismail Jook (Balung), Haji Nasir (Sulabayan), and Haji Salim Bacho (Kunak).

The Assemblymen have to remain in Usno despite the expansion of Umno into Sabah to avoid being forced to vacate their seats as required under the State Constitution.

On the PBS desire to create a good working relationship with Kuala Lumpur, Encik Ghafar said the PBS must be sincere in wanting to improve ties.

Asked if the BN's door was still open for PBS re-admission, Encik Ghafar who is the BN Secretary-general, said all component parties of the coalition must unanimously agree.

He said the strained relationship between the PBS and Federal Government had affected the smooth implementation of Federal-funded projects in the State.

Earlier, addressing a gathering at the Dewan Datuk Harris here, Encik Ghafar said the decision of the PBS to cut off its ties with Kuala Lumpur, had caused problems to the people.

He said it was difficult for the Federal Government to play its role in improving the people's well-being under such circumstances.

He gave an assurance that he would visit Sabah one a month to see for himself the problems and needs of the people and would make an efforts to visit every districts **"to explain the Barisan's sincerity in uniting the people"**.

In Penang, Sabah Umno deputy liaison chief Tun Datu Mustapha Datu Harun said Umno would not tolerate accusations that the party would colonise and compress the people of Sabah.

According to a Bernama report, such talks showed that certain groups were worried that Malays in Sabah were becoming united in the struggle to uphold justice.

"Despite my age, I will continue championing that cause," he said in a speech at the opening of a Jelutong Wanita Umno division charity show here last night. The speech were read out by his representatives, Encik Aklee Abas.

30/6/1991 (NST, 1/7/1991)

KOTA KINABALU, Sun.- Sabah Umno supports Deputy Prime Minister Abdul Ghafar Baba's call to the Sabah Government to repeal anti-hop provision from the State Constitution.

Sabah Umno liaison committee information chief Nilwan Kabang said the call should be heeded by Parti Bersatu Sabah (PBS) for the return of democracy in the State.

Encik Nilwan said the anti-hop law hindered the freedom of elected State Assemblymen from effectively carrying out their duties.

State Assemblymen should be free from selecting the political party they wanted to serve their respective constituencies efficiently.

Encik Ghafar had said the anti-hop law was undemocratic and should be repealed by PBS at the July 3 and 4 sitting of the State Legislative Assembly.

The anti-hop law made it disqualification automatic any Assemblyman who resigns from or ceases to a member of the political party under whose ticket he won the seat.

Encik Nilwan claimed the law was passed by the State Legislative Assembly to prevent PBS' Assemblymen from joining other political parties.

"This law is only beneficial to PBS," he added.

Since the imposition of the anti-hop law, three State Assemblymen had been affected.

1/7/1991 (NST, 2/7/1991)

KOTA KINABALU, Fri.- All 11 Usno Assemblymen are expected to object to the amendment to the State constitution to bar any State assemblyman who quits from re-contesting his seat or standing for election for the next five years.

Former Usno secretary Askalani Abdul Rahim, who is the Lahad Datu Assemblyman, said he would not support the amendment, adding that his colleagues would also like do the same.

He said although parliament had approved a similar amendment to the Federal Constitution, it was not necessary for the 11 Usno Assemblymen to support the move.

Chief Minister Datuk Joseph Pairin Kitingan will table the proposed amendment at the two-day State Legislative Assembly sitting next Wednesday.

If the amendment is approved, an Assemblymen who quits will be barred from re-contesting his seat or going for any of the 47 State seats in the next five years, effective from the date he resigns.

The proposal amendment will also cover Assemblymen from Peninsula Malaysia and Sarawak who wanted to contest for any of the State seats in Sabah after quitting his seat in their respective States.

Two other Usno Assemblyman, Haji Haji Noor (Sulaman) and Karim Bujang (Bongawan), when contacted expressed similar sentiment.

The other Usno Assemblymen are Dayang Mahani (Lumadan), Haji Pitting Ali (Sekong), Said Senang (Merotai), Datu Ismail Jook (Balung), Haji Salim Bacho (Kunak), Datu Amir Kahar (Banggi), Haji Nasir Sakaran (Sulabayan) and Aklee Abas (Sukau).

Umno's sole member in the State Legislative Assembly, Tun Datu Mustapha Harun (Usukan) is also expected to object the amendment.

Assembly Secretary Datuk Francis Yap on Wednesday said that the amendment would be included under Section 17 (5) of the State constitution.

3/7/1991) (STAR, 4/7/1991)

KOTA BARU, Wed.- The State Assembly declared vacant the Limbongan and Sungai Pinang seats whose assemblymen have crossed over to the BN.

Speaker Haji Omar Mohamed announced after the House voted 26-2 on separate motions calling for the assemblymen's expulsion under the Laws of the Constitution of Kelantan (First Part) (Amendment) Enactment 1991 which outlaws party hopping.

Haji Omar then thanked both Haji Wan Najib Wan Mohamad (Limbongan) and Haji Nordin Salleh (Sungai Pinang) for their services rendered during their tenure, before adjourning the assembly to tomorrow.

Haji Wan Najib and Haji Nordin, who were reported to have quit Semangat 46 between March and April to rejoin Umno, told reporters later that they would look for legal provisions to challenge the decision.

During the sitting, Haji Wan Najib tried to strike out the motion, moved against him by Dato' Nik Man Nik Mohamad (Geting), on the grounds that the matter was subjudice and, therefore, could not be debated or voted on.

His move was, however, rejected by Haji Omar who said he allowed the motion with the authority vested in the assembly.

(The two assemblymen yesterday obtained an injunction from the Kuala Lumpur High Court restraining the Election Commission from declaring or holding by-elections for two seats).

Both of them said that as far as they were concerned they were still assemblymen pending the court's decision in the case proper.

In opposing the motion, Haji Wan Najib said it was unfair and the House, in allowing the motion, was in conflict with its Standing Orders which prohibited discussions or debate on matters under judicial review.

"The motion is a challenge and an insult to the court," he said, adding this may trigger a legal crisis.

Haji Nordin, in debating the motion proposed by Haji Zainuddin Nor (Tendong), said the dispute was a political problem and it should be resolved through political means instead of invoking the laws.

He warned that the abuse of power by the assembly in disregarding the court injunction could result in a constitutional crisis with wide-ranging implications and, he said such a crisis could only be settled through constitutional means.

"The motion will also retard the state's current efforts in fostering a cordial relationship with the federal government," he added.

Both Dato' Nik Man and Haji Zainuddin, in winding up the debate, said the adoption of the new law by a vast majority in the last assembly sitting on April 25 gave the assembly convincing power to vacate the two seats despite the injunction.

"Moreover, the law carries a clause that it cannot be challenged in court," Haji Zainudin said.

When the House convened, Haji Omar directed Haji Wan Najib and Haji Nordin to move the edge of the back-benchers' table, setting them apart from the Angkatan Perpaduan Ummah members, after he read out two letters sent to him by Kelantan Semangat chief Haji Rozali Ishak, and Umno Secretary-general Dato' Mohamad Rahmat, the Information Minister.

Haji Rozali's latter listed out the names of all Semangat assemblymen in Kelantan with the exclusion of Haji Wan Najib and Haji Nordin's, while Dato' Mohamad's letter stated that the two were now Umno members representing the BN as the Opposition in the assembly and that their sitting position ought to be lathered.

3/7/1991 (NST, 4/7/1991)

KOTA KINABALU, Wed.- The 11 Usno State Assemblymen are seeking at allocation of \$300,000 from the Federal Government to develop their respective areas which they claimed has been ignored by the ruling PBS.

Former Usno Secretary-general and Lahad Datu Askalani Rahim said they would forward their request to Deputy Prime Minister Ghafar Baba soon.

Encik Ghafar had during his recent visit to the State given the assurance that the Federal Government would help develop Usno represented areas.

The deputy Prime Minister, who is also Umno Sabah liaison chairman, advised the 11 Usno Assemblymen to submit to him the list of projects of the amount of allocation needed.

"We are now finalising the list of development projects that need to be implemented in our respective areas," he said after the Assembly sitting today.

The 11 Assemblymen met recently and resolved to ask the Federal Government to provide development funds for them so that they could see to the request of the people they represented .

All of them cannot join Umno until the next State elections due to a State law which provides for an automatic disqualification of an Assemblyman who switched the parties.

"We are in Usno only in name... our hearts are with Umno," said Encik Askalani, adding that he and his colleagues has been working hard to promote Umno.

5/7/1991 (STAR, 6/7/1991)

JOHOR BARU, Fri.- Johor Umno has agreed to organised more **"heart-to-heart talks"** between its state leaders and division committee members, party chief Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin said today.

He said apart from fostering goodwill and understanding among members, the talks would help maintain party solidarity.

"I have agreed for Johor Umno organise more meetings with the divisional and branch leaders," he said adding that through such meetings he could better understand their problems.

Tan Sri Muhyiddin said his meeting with the Senai Umno division leaders last week had brought to light some of the division's problems.

He said the meeting had helped clarify, for an instance, misinformation regarding the state's plan to set up small industries in the rural areas.

Tan Sri Muhyiddin said Johor Umno would also organise meetings between divisional leaders so that members can gain political understanding on how to attain the past stature of the state Umno.

He urged division leaders to organise inter-division sports meets yearly.

"Such activities can bring Umno members in Johor together and create a united political force for the Malays," he said.

Tan Sri Muhyiddin also asked party members not to question Johor Umno's move to help the Bachok and Kuala Krai Umno divisions in Kelantan.

He said the Umno supreme council had decided that all state parties help the Kelantan Umno.

"I want Johor Umno members to know what will happen when Umno is weak. What happened in Kelantan could happen here if members have no commitment towards the party," he said.

6/7/1991 (NST, 7/7/1991)

KUALA LUMPUR, Sat.- Umno will not interfere with the court action taken by two of its members in connection with their positions as Kelantan State Assemblymen, its deputy president Ghafar Baba said.

The matter was before the court, he said, when explaining the party's decision.

The deputy Prime Minister was speaking with reporters at the airport after welcoming the Prime Minister back from a three-week visit to Latin America.

"Umno is only helping them with a lawyer," he said referring to Sungai Pinang State assemblyman Haji Nordin Salleh and Limbongan State Assemblyman Haji Wan Najib.

"What the court decides we will follow. We respect the courts. We cannot do anything other than wait for the outcome."

While the State Government had the right to declare vacant their two seats, he said only the Election Commission could carry out any by-elections.

Haji Nordin and Haji Wan Najib joined Umno after they were elected on Parti Semangat 46 tickets in the last general election in October last year.

In April, the State Legislative Assembly passed a retrospective amendment to the State Constitution. Under the amendment, a seat is declared vacant if the holder switched parties.

In May, the two filed separate suits in court seeking a declaration that they were, all times, not members of Semangat 46.

(In their statement of claim, they said they had permission to use the party symbol when contesting their seats - even though they were not members.)

On Tuesday, the two obtained a temporary court injunction restraining the commission from holding by-elections in their constituencies until the outcomes of their suits. The next day, the assembly declared their seat vacant.

Yesterday the commission filed a High Court application seeking to set aside the interim injunction. No date has been fixed for the hearing of the application.

8/7/1991 (STAR, 9/7/1991)

KUALA LUMPUR, Mon.- Kelantan Umno will begin preparations to face by-elections in the Limbongan and Sungai Pinang state constituencies, deputy liaison chief Senator Annuar Musa said today.

He said the Umno state liaison committee would discuss setting up an election committee soon despite a court order restraining a by-election in both state constituencies.

"We feel early preparations are necessary," he told reporters after a dialogue with a Gerakan Youth delegations here.

The seats, held by Haji Wan Najib Wan Mohamad (Limbongan) and Haji Nordin Salleh (Sungai Pinang), were declared vacant by the Kelantan Assembly last week.

Haji Annuar said both former Semangat 46 leaders would be considered as candidates "once a by-election is declared."-BERNAMA.

16/7/1991 (STAR, 17/7/1991)

KUALA LUMPUR, Tues.- Prime Minister Dato' Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today that the Government will investigate allegations of insider trading.

He also said the Government would not hesitate to prosecute prominent corporate figures if they were involved in insider trading.

"The guilty will be found guilty," he told reporters when asked to comment on allegations of insider trading on the Kuala Lumpur Stock Exchange.

Dr Mahathir had earlier opened the Saga Academy, a technical training school set up by EON to train youths to become mechanics in its after sales service centres.

He said the allegation of insider trading had an effect on the stock market but added the Government would continue investigating even if it took a long time.

Asked whether the investigation conducted by the Registrar of Companies over the restructuring of Renong, which bought over Umno assets last year, could be connected to insider trading, Dr Mahathir said:

"I do not know about Umno assets. Whatever, Umno assets they were acquired, they did it from the Official Assignee. If the Official Assignee wants to sell (Umno assets) it is not for us to determine, as we have no right," he said, adding that Renong has no links with Umno.

Dr Mahathir said he was not sure whether the owners of Renong had once been nominees of Umno.

"There was no linkage as far as I know. There may be some Umno personalities. But they are not Umno companies as such," he said.

Asked whether any of personalities being investigated were linked to business owned by Umno, Dr Mahathir said: "No, they do not belong to Umno."

16/7/1991 (NST, 17/7/1991)

BUTTERWORTH, Tues.- The Barisan Nasional today received a timely boost when a State Semangat 46 strong man joined Umno.

Semangat 46 State secretary Syed Masir Syed Safi, 59, left the party and submitted his application form to State Umno deputy chairman Dr Ibrahim Saad tonight.

Syed Masir, who is also the Semangat 46 Permatang Pauh division deputy chairman and Kampung Setol branch chief, said more party members were expected to leave the party.

He added that the Kampung Setol branch would be dissolved soon and members would also join Umno.

He believed that about 200 members from other branches would follow his action.

Syed Masir's decision to quite the party boosts the BN's morale in its efforts to wrest the Prai State seat in the coming by-election.

Syed Masir said he left Semangat 46 for personal reasons saying that the party had fouled to unite the Malays.

He also said that he had no confidence in Semangat 46 and pledged his support to BN candidate V. Muthusamy in the by-election.

Dr Ibrahim welcomed the move, saying that there was something wrong in the State Semangat 46 leadership following the defection of two leaders in one week.

Last week, Semangat 46 Tasik Gelugor division Dr Rozee Yusof left the party and joined Umno.

Dr Ibrahim believed that Semangat 46 would not be able to woo Malay voters in the by-election by using local leaders.

16/7/1991 (NST, 17/7/1991)

KOTA KINABALU, Tues.- The PBS must agree to form a coalition Government with Umno, Angkatan Keadilan rakyat and the MCA before it can be accepted back into the BN, an Umno leader said.

Umno Pensiangan divisional pro tem committee chairman Haji Karim Ghani said the State ruling party must also reaffirm to subscribe fully to the concept and practice of the national coalition.

"When the PBS submits its application to rejoin, I will back the BN leadership to consider favourably....in this way Sabah is returned to a BN Government," he said.

Haji Karim said all this way for peaceful Sabah where there would be less politicking, providing an atmosphere conducive for development and investment opportunities.

He said Chief Minister and PBS president Pairin Kitingan had on several occasions voiced the party's intention to have a close and cordial co-operation with the Federal Government and to rejoin the BN.

"I have come to the conclusion that the PBS leadership after realising its folly (of leaving BN) now sincerely regrets its action and wishes to make amends," the former Usno State Assemblyman for Bongawan said.

18/7/1991 (STAR, 19/7/1991)

KOTA KINABALU, Thurs.- A former state Minister of Health Datuk Richard Yap and 14 others are joining Sabah Umno.

Datuk Yap, 78, who served as minister between 1964 and 1967, said he was joining Umno as it was the most powerful party in Malaysia and its leaders were reasonable and responsible.

"I am being practical. I am returning to politics because Sabah needs a strong and stable government," said Datuk Yap who quit politics 17 years ago.

He and the others handed in their applications form to Sabah Umno information chief Encik Nilawan Kabang yesterday.

20/7/1991 (NST, 21/7/1991)

KUALA TERENGGANU, Sat. - Umno will seek an explanation from the MP for Segamat Mr. S.S Subramaniam on his July 16 statement in the Dewan Rakyat proposing that English be made an official language.

Umno Youth leader Dato' Seri Najib Tun Razak said a delegation of the movement's exco member will met Mr Subramaniam for a clarification.

"The statement is against Government policy," he told reporters after opening a seminar on the role of youth towards achieving Vision 2020. Dato' Seri Najib said that statement appeared to have misinterpreted the Prime Minister's vision of a develop nation.

He said Bahasa Malaysia must remain as a official language considering its capability as a medium of instruction and communication.

Nevertheless, English will be maintained as a second language to enable the people to learn new technology and discoveries written language.

"But it is unwise to say that English should be made the official language because the countries like Japan, Korea, France and Germany use their own languages but still can be developed," he added.

Dato' Seri Najib said it was vital for Malaysia to retain its identity while achieving the objectives of Vision 2020.

He said foreign technical books are being translated into Bahasa Malaysia in an effort to upgrade the language and make it the lingua franc in the region besides popularising it internationally.

Earlier, in his opening address, Dato' Seri Najib said Umno Youth will hold a national convention to explain Vision 2020 and find ways to overcome three obstacles - misinterpretation of the concept, abuse of power and extreme thinking.

21/7/1991 (STAR, 22/7/1991)

SEREMBAN, Sun.- Umno should rid itself of traitors trying to erode its strength by sowing seeds of discords and disharmony.

Mentri Besar Tan Sri Haji Mohamed Isa Samad said today the biggest threat to the party was not the opposition, but members who were "wolves in sheep" as clothing.

"We must strive to rid these double-faced members by educating the others on the importance of fostering party unity and loyalty," he said at the launch of the Umno Paroi Jaya Indah branch here.

He said some disloyal members had urged others in the party not to vote for Barisan in the last general election.

Disloyal party members should be punished, he added.

Tan Sri Isa said party leaders should not be tarnish Umno' image.

He said Umno leaders were looked up to not only by members of the party but also by members of Barisan component parties.

"Any squabble within our party would only turn these people against us. They will be fed-up with us bickering instead of developing and defending the community and nation," he added.

22/7/1991 (NST, 23/7/1991)

KUALA LUMPUR, Mon.- MP for Segamat Mr S.S. Subramaniam embroiled in a controversy over his suggestion that English be made an official language, said today that the proposal was made in good faith to help upgrade scientific and technical standards in the country.

"I made the suggestion in all sincerity. I did not know that it would cause hurt to individuals and groups," he said when commenting on statements by various quarters on the proposal made in the Dewan Rakyat on June 16.

"My suggestion was only to assist the Government and was in no way meant to oppose anybody or any particular group," he said.

Umno Youth chief Dato' Seri Najib Tun Razak has stated that the statement ran contrary to Government policy and that Umno Youth would be seeking an explanation on the matter from Mr Subramaniam.

Yesterday, deputy Prime Minister Encik Ghafar Baba said that Mr Subramaniam's proposal was unacceptable as Bahasa Malaysia was being widely used in administration, politics and economics.

Mr Subramaniam said he made the suggestion in view of the Government's vision of a developed nation by the year 2020.

23/7/1991 (STAR, 25/7/1991)

Umno does not own any company and is not involved in any business, including share transactions, Prime Minister Dato' Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad told the Dewan Rakyat yesterday.

Dr Mahathir, who is Umno president, said Umno members were however free to buy shares or do business like everyone else.

"If the people known to the former Finance Minister Tun Daim Zainudin buy shares, it does not mean Umno is buying shares."

Dr Mahathir said this when replying to points raised during debate on the Sixth Malaysia Plan which he tabled last week.

Replying to Opposition Leader Mr Lim Kit Siang (DAP - Tanjong), he said: "I am sure many people known to you and your **"new friend"** buy and sell shares but my colleagues and I will not forget your accusation that one person by the name of Dato' Halim is a front man for Umno.

"He is not a front man for Umno."

During debate last week, Mr Lim had alleged that Dato' Halim Saad of Renong Berhad was a front man or Umno.

Dr Mahathir had earlier referred to a former executive chairman of Bank Bumiputera Malaysia Bhd Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah as a **"new friend"** of Mr Lim.

Dr Mahathir continued: "I sleep well every night as I am worried that Umno's money will not be lost because Umno money is not involved.

"I admit that if Umno money to the amount of \$1 billion is involved, I will not be able to sleep well.

"Umno has been cheated many times in the past because people entrusted to look after Umno's funds suddenly said there was no money at all.

"As such, I am not trusting to the extent of allowing others to be fronting and holding \$1 billion belonging to Umno has that much money."

He said it was normal for shares worth millions of ringgit to change hands every day and sometimes people borrow the entire cost from banks.

He explained that banks would accept the shares as security if they were confident of recovering their money from the shares under certain circumstances.

On Umno's assets, he said they were still with the Official Assignee and could not be used for any benefit to Umno at present.

"The fact is that because of the actions of people who feel that if they cannot get something, Umno should be destroyed. So, Umno's assets are still with the Official Assignee today.

"But now, I am aware that there are Umno people who only wanted to take care of Umno if they can own it."

24/7/1991 (NST, 25/7/1991)

KUALA LUMPUR, Wed.- Umno Youth will request the Prime Minister not to entertain any request to appoint MP for Segamat S.S. Subramaniam a Parliamentary secretary if he does not withdraw his call to make English an official language made at a recent session of Parliament.

This was decided at an Umno Youth executive council meeting last night. The movement also rejected the call.

"We regret that Mr Subramaniam, being a member of the ruling party, made such a call which is against the Constitution," Umno Youth deputy leader Mohamed Nazri Abdul Aziz told reporters at Parliament House.

Encik Mohamed Nazri said the movement would send a telegram and also hand over a letter to Mr Subramaniam personally.

Asked whether Umno Youth would take the matter up with MIC president Dato' Seri S. Samy Vellu, he said it was not necessary because it was Mr Subramaniam who made the call.

29/7/1991 (STAR. 30/7/1991)

KUALA LUMPUR, Mon.- Nomination day for the by-elections of the Sungai Pinang and Limbongan state seats in Kelantan has been fixed for Aug 12.

In the event of any contest, polling will be on Aug 24, the Election Commission announced after meeting today to fix the date.

Commission chairman Dato' Harun Din said that the 1990 electoral rolls would be used in the by-elections.

According to the 1990 electoral roll, there are 15,430 eligible voters in Sungai Pinang and 13,681 in Limbongan.

Tumpat assistant district officers Haji Mohamad Aiseri Alias was named the returning officer for the Sungai Pinang by-election and Pasir Putih district officer Haji Ismail Yusof for Limbongan.

The constituencies were declared vacant by the state assembly on July 3 after assemblymen Haji Nordin Salleh (Sungai Pinang) and Haji Wan Najib Wan Mohamad (Limbongan) joined Umno.

They were elected to the seats on Semangat 46 platform in the 1990 general election.

The Kelantan state assembly had on April 25 passed "**anti-hopping**" law preventing state assemblymen from switching political parties.

The laws were backdated to Nov 18 when the present state assemblymen were sworn in.

Dato' Harun also said that the commission would meet the political parties in Kelantan soon to brief them on of the "**rules of engagement**" during the by-elections.

Using the Prai by-election to illustrate a point, he said that although it went well, there were instances where caricatures which could be viewed as offensive were used during campaigning.

"All parties must not resort to tactics that will offend others," he said, adding that political parties would be advised not to "**harass**" voters near polling stations.

29/7/1991 (STAR, 30/7/1991)

KUALA LUMPUR, Mon.- Umno can expect stiff competition from the opposition in the two by-elections in Kelantan next month, Deputy Prime Minister Abdul Ghafar Baba said.

"Kelantan has always been tough and I hope the people will chose wisely. But whatever the outcome, Umno will always remain the same, Encik Ghafar told reporters at Parliament House today.

He said Umno president Dato' Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad would make a decision on the candidates after consulting party members in Kelantan.

He said he could not comment on Umno's chances of winning as yet.

30/7/1991 (STAR, 31/7/1991)

SHAH ALAM, Tues.- Umno will decide on its candidates for the Sungai Pinang and Limbongan be-elections only after the High Court rules on the suits of two assemblymen who lost the seats under a recently-amended law.

Umno deputy president Abdul Ghafar Baba said that it would be up to the Kelantan liaison chief to decide who would be the best choice.

The Election Commission has fixed nominations on Aug 12 and polling day on Aug 24.

The Sungai Pinang seat was held by Haji Nordin Salleh and Limbongan and Haji Wan Najib Mohamad. Both were expelled after joining Umno early this year under an anti-party hopping law passed by the assembly.

Both men had won their seats in the late general election under the Semangat 46 banner and are seeking to declare the enactment of the "anti-hopping" law as *ultra vires* the Federal Constitution.

Encik Ghafar, speaking after touring the Bukit Cahaya agriculture park here.

30/7/1991 (STAR, 31/7/1991)

The coming Sungai Pinang and Limbongan by-elections in Kelantan has given the Barisan Nasional (BN) the unfamiliar tag of an underdog.

However, many in the BN, especially Umno, do not see it that way. They argue that Umno candidates have yet to lose in an by-election.

True enough, the BN won comfortably at Bayu in Kedah and Usukan in Sabah. A few days ago, it wrested Prai from the DAP. Despite the victories, observers believe that the real test for Umno lies in Kelantan where it did not win a single seat at the polls last year.

"The outcome of previous by-elections cannot be used as a yardstick when discussing Kelantan politics. In Prai, basically it was the BN against the DAP but in Kelantan it will be Umno against Semangat 46 and Pas," said a keen observers of Kelantan politics.

"The Umno-Semangat re-match is a test of whether the Kelantan people still have faith in the Semangat-Pas coalition. In the other words, it will show where Umno stands in the state," he added.

Another observer described the two by-elections as an extension of the bitter feud in Umno four year ago.

"Like it or not, many see it as a Mahathir-Razaleigh re-match. It is the real test as afar as Malay politics is concerned. The results for Sungai Pinang and Limbongan will determine the future of Kelantan politics," said another observers.

Deputy Prime Minister Ghafar Baba acknowledged that the going would be tough for Umno in Kelantan.

"Kelantan has always been tough and I hope the people will choose wisely. Whatever the outcome Umno will always remain the same," he said.

Statistics apart, the main problem facing the Umno leadership is over the choice of candidates for the two by-elections.

The talks that the Umno leadership had long promised Haji Nordin and Haji Wan Najib the chance to re-contest on a BN ticket does not go down well with local party leaders.

They argue that if Umno was serious in capturing the seats, it would wide in capturing the seats, it would wise to pick up others for the job.

The choice of candidates for Sungai Pinang and Limbongan has become a sensitive issue within Umno. The party leadership was wise to defer that matter during the recent supreme council meeting.

The meeting, among other things, officially accepted the membership of former Semangat leaders including Haji Nordin and Haji Wan Najib.

Whatever problems Umno has in determining its candidates, the leadership actually has 10 days to decide.

Prime Minister, who is also Kelantan Umno liaison chairman, will be hoping for a change of fortunes.

Despite his presence, much of work on the ground will be left to his deputy, Haji Annuar Musa, the man entrusted with the job of rebuilding Kelantan Umno.

31/7/1991 (STAR, 1/8/1991)

KUALA TERENGGANU, Wed.- Terengganu Umno will help its counterparts in Kelantan to recapture Sungai Pinang and Limbongan should there be contests for the two state seats.

Its secretary, Tengku Mahmud Mansur, said today it would send a large delegation of *ceramah* speakers, including party leaders, and campaigners and vehicles to back up the Kelantan Umno's machinery.

He said the campaigners would be in Kelantan on a weekly rotation as soon as the party leadership had decided on the candidates for the by-elections.

"We must work very hard to ensure our party wins back the seats," he said.

Tengku Mahmud Mansor, who is the deputy Primary Industries Minister, was speaking to reporters after opening the Area Farmers Organisations's annual meeting in Bandar Permaisuri, Setiu.

Deputy Prime Minister and Umno deputy president Ghafar Baba said yesterday the party would decide on its candidates only after a High Court had ruled on the suits of the two assemblymen who lost the seats under a recently amended state law to prevent assemblymen from switching parties.

Haji Nordin Salleh, who held the Sungai Pinang seat, and Haji Wan Najib, the Limbungan seat, were expelled from the Kelantan State assembly under its anti-party hopping law after they joined Umno.

Both had won the seats in last October's general election on Semangat 46 tickets and are now seeking hopping enactment as ultra vires the Federal Government.

Encik Ghafar said that there would be serious implications if the High Court ruled that the expelled assemblymen were never Semangat 46 members, thus invalidating their expulsion.

31/6/1991 (STAR, 1/8/1991)

KUALA LUMPUR, Wed.- Some former Usno members who have joined Umno will rejoin Usno to enable Usno branch and divisional meetings to be held, Usno vice-president Datu Amir Kahar Tun Mustapha said here last night.

He said their rejoining Usno was only a temporary measures to prevent Usno from being dissolved for failing to hold branch and divisional meetings as stipulated under the party constitution and Societies Act.

If the matter of failing to hold the meetings was taken to court, Usno might be declared invalid and dissolved and this would jeopardise the position of its 11 state assemblymen, he told reporters at Parliament House.

Usno's assemblymen Datu Amir Kahar (Banggi), Haji Nasir Sakaran (Sulabayan), Dayang Mahani Tun Pengiran Rafee (Lumadan), Datu Ismail Jook (Balung), Encik Aklee Abas (Sukau), Encik Haji Haji Noor (Sulaman), Encik Karim Haji Bujang (Bongawan), Encik Said Haji Senang (Merotai), Haji Pitting Haji Ali (Sekong) and Haji Salim Bachoo (Kunak).

Datu Amir Kahar, who is MP for Marudu, said these members would remain in Usno until the state election was held, following which they and the 11 assemblymen would join Umno.

He said this was more practical than letting all Usno members, including the 11 assemblymen join Umno now which would force by-elections to be held.

Datu Amir Kahar said Usno was still strong and the recent entry of AKAR and LDP into the BN would further strengthen the BN in Sabah -
BERNAMA

5/8/1991 (NST, 6/8/1991)

KUALA LUMPUR, Mon.- Umno has shortlisted its candidates for the Limbongan and Sungai Pinang state by-elections in Kelantan on Aug 24, party Secretary-general Dato' Mohamed Rahmat said today.

It was up to Prime Minister Dato' Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, who is Kelantan Umno liaison committee chief, to announce their names, he told reporters after launching the "**Larian Perdana Kampungku**" at Angkasapuri here.

The seats were declared by the Kelantan State Legislative Assembly when it expelled the assemblyman Wan Najib (Limbongan) and Haji Nordin Salleh (Sungai Pinang) for party hopping under the amendment to the Kelantan State Constitution which disqualified elected representatives who switch parties.

Dato' Mohamed, who is Information Minister, said Umno would consider the possibility of selecting Wan Najib and Haji Nordin for the by-elections.

6/8/1991 (NST, 7/8/1991)

ALOR STAR, Tues.- The Kelantan State Assembly needs an opposition to ensure that the people in the State are effectively served, Prime Minister Dato' Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today.

He added that the absence of an opposition in the the Pas-Semangat 46 dominated State Assembly in Kelantan has deprived the people of an opportunity to check the State Government's administration.

None of the Pas or Semangat 46 Assemblymen in the State dares to oppose any Government motion for fear of being expelled from the party, Dr Mahathir said, adding that this was the reason for the absence of an opposition in the State Assembly.

Dr Mahathir said the BN candidates for the by-election stood a good chance of winning and he hoped that the people of the State would review their stand on Umno and the BN which they had voted against in last year's general elections.

6/8/1991 (NST, 7/8/1991)

JITRA, Tues.- Umno will proceed with its suit to reclaim the \$1.5 billion worth of property belonging to the registered Umno because the party now has sufficient proof to stake the claim, its president Dato' Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today.

Umno has sufficient proof to submit its claims for the property of the old Umno, including the \$500 million PWTC which was placed with the Public Trustee and Property Administrator's Department when the old Umno was deregistered in 1987.

More than 700,000 old Umno members have joined the new Umno, he said.

"Umno has enough proof based on receipts, lists of members, letters and various other evidence to substantiate our claims for the property," Dr Mahathir told reporters after a meeting with committee members of the Kubang Pasu Umno division at his office here.

"The documents will provide proof that more than 700,000 members of more than 50 per cent of the members of the old Umno have joined the new Umno," he said.

Dr Mahathir said all Umno branches have been given until the end of the month to complete process of the old Umno members who had joined the new Umno.

"We have fixed the time-frames for members to make the declarations until end of this month.

Dr Mahathir said when making the claim for the court, Umno would have to prove that 700,000 members of the old Umno have joined Umno.

9/8/1991 (NST, 10/8/1991)

TUMPAT, Wed.- Umno information chief Dato' Haji Hussien Ahmad said the Sungai Pinang voters would be becoming a serious act of betrayal if they did not vote for BN candidate in the Aug 24 by-election.

He said Haji Nordin was willing to be stripped of this State Assembly seat for the sake of his voters.

Haji Nordin's sincerity should therefore be repaid by voters in the constituency, Dato' Haji Hussien said.

"Haji Nordin tried to get Kelantan Government to fulfil its general election promises, including the \$100 allowance for the old, development projects and also (the promise concerning) fertilizer.

"He also fought for Semangat 46's share of posts in the State administration but was not entertained.

"Out of frustration, he realized that the Kelantan Government was not going to keep its promises and he returned to Umno's fold to continue the struggle for his voters," Dato' Haji Hussien said in a *ceramah* in Tanjung Kuala here last night.

10/8/1991 (NST, 11/8/1991)

KOTA BARU, Sat.- Kelantan Umno wants the Pas-led State Government to implement balanced economic, social and religious programmes as a pre-condition for co-operation between both the State and Federal Governments.

State Umno information chief Haji Hassan Harun said today a balanced physical and spiritual development was vital for the benefit of the Kelantan people and ensure that the State would not be left behind in development.

He hoped the meeting between Prime Minister Dato' Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad and Mentri Besar Haji Nik Abdul Aziz Nik Mat yesterday would bring about new changes in the thinking and action of the Kelantan Government in the interest of the people.

Haji Hassan said the State Umno was aware of the financial problems facing the Pas Government.

"Without financial support from the Federal Government, the State Government will be paralysed. Haji Nik Abdul Aziz's meeting with the Prime Minister was a clear indication of the situation," he told a Press conference.

He said the meeting between the two leaders was important and meant a lot to the people.

The people's support for Pas had not diminished but failed to realize the unhealthy development and trend which had cropped up and could in the long run adversely affect the Malay in the State, he added.

Haji Hassan said several findings from a research, carried out by an independent body commissioned by Kelantan Umno, revealed that the State's economy was getting weaker and there had been no increase in the purchasing power.

Citing the number of contractors, he said there were less than 20 of them still active while the others had left the State to operate elsewhere, such as Kuantan and Kuala Lumpur.

11/8/1991 (STAR, 12/8/1991)

PENANG, Sun.- The state Umno Youth economic bureau would table feedback on proposals for Vision 2020 at the party's next convention in Kuala Lumpur.

Bureau chairman Abdul Malik Kassim said the findings were of "special importance" because they contained the opinion of the grassroots.

The feedback would enable economist to prepare their working papers, he said at a dialogue session on Vision 2020 organized by the bureau.

11/8/1991 (STAR, 12/8/1991)

PORT KLANG, Sun.- The two former assemblymen for Sungai Pinang and Limbongan in Kelantan will re-contest the seats in by-elections scheduled for Aug 24.

Haji Nordin Salleh (Sungai Pinang) and Haji Wan Mohamed Najib (Limbongan) will contest under the BN banner, Dato' Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today.

The Prime Minister said the BN has a 50 per cent chance, adding the he still believed that there should be an opposition in Kelantan.

"This is the best time for the people in Kelantan to choose the two people who can make wise objections to the possibility of wrong-doings in the state government," he told reporters at the Selangor Royal Yacht Club here.

In Kota Baru, Kelantan Umno deputy chairman Senator Haji Annuar Musa said both candidates were selected by the Umno divisions in the two constituencies with the blessings of the state and national Umno leadership.

"With their undisputed service records, they are the best candidates to recapture the seats of BN.

Senator Annuar, director for the by-elections said if BN captured the Sungai Pinang and Limbongan seats, the two constituencies would be given treatment by the Federal Government as they would be the coalition's first seats on the APU state government.

Both Haji Nordin and Haji Najib thanked the party leadership for having confidence in them.

Haji Nordin said it was a "very heavy responsibility," given that the BN was trying to regain its influence and power in the state.

The by-elections will have a bearing on the future of Umno in Kelantan, giving it an opportunity to assess its strength and acceptability to the people after the last general election," he said.

13/8/1991 (STAR, 14/8/1991)

KOTA BARU, Tues.- Both the BN and Semangat 46 are out to woo the 2,000 "fence sitters" in Tumpat, who will likely decide the outcome of the Sungai Pinang contest.

Party workers agreed that the 2,000 votes might be crucial in a close fight although the BN appeared to have gained some ground since losing by 3,180 votes in the last October general election.

Both Umno and Semangat seemed equally matched in terms of members, with Umno having 4,500 and Semangat 1,8000 and its ally Pas some 3,000 members.

"This makes up about 9,000 of the total 15,430 electorate. Based on a 7 per cent voters turnout, we expect some 11,000 people to cast their votes.

"So, we are talking about the 2,000 undecided voters who will determine the winner," an Umno leader said.

Another Umno campaigners, Haji Kamarudin Abdullah, agreed that the battle would be close because BN's Haji Nordin Salleh had pulled over the number of Semangat supporters.

Kelantan Deputy Mentri Besar Haji Rozali Ishak said their task was also to woo the **"fence-sitter"** about 600 of whom were non-Malays.

However, Semangat seems headed for trouble following boycott threats from its youth wing protesting the candidacy of Tumpat division head Haji Mahmud Yaakub.

Semangat and Pas workers claimed that **"hundreds of Semangat Youth members"** had stayed away from seven of the 16 balloting centres in the constituency, affecting Semangat's groundwork preparations.

"Semangat has to resolve the problem fast as four of the seven areas comprises mainly the fence-sitters and Umno is making headway," said a Pas leader.

Haji Rozali admitted that there was some dissatisfaction over the choice of candidates but party president Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah had met them to resolve the problem.

BN workers are, however, taking full advantage of the squabbling to cover as much ground as possible.

"It is a touch and go affairs in Sungai Pinang. But even if Umno misses this chance, Semangat's image will be affected if its majority is reduced," a Semangat leader said.

In Limbongan, campaigns are also hotting up between Umno's Haji Wan Mohamad Najib and Semangat's Haji Samat Mamat.

Both sides held about 20 ceramah last night, followed by door-to-door campaigning which kicked off at 8am today.

14/8/1991 (NST, 15/8/1991)

KUALA LUMPUR, Wed.- There is no evidence to show that former State Assemblyman for Sungai Pinang Haji Nordin Salleh and former State Assemblyman for Limbongan Haji Wan Mohamad Najib has submitted application forms to become members of Semangat 46, the High Court was told today.

Their counsel, Encik Zaki, also said there was no evidence that they had made any payment to become its members.

Encik Zaki was submitting at the hearing of tow suits filed by his clients against Semangat 46 president Tengku Razaleigh and the party's Secretary-general Dato' Suhaimi Kamarudin.

The plaintiffs are seeking a declaration that they were at all materials times not members of Semangat 46.

They are also seeking mandatory injunction restraining the two leaders from making statements that they are members of Semangat 46.

The defendants closed their case today after calling NST journalists K.H. Lim.

Mr Lim was questioned by Dato' Suhaimi regarding his report entitled: "Umno sets dates for assembly" which appeared in the NST on July 28.

Encik Zaki began submitting after the court rejected an application made by his assistant, Miss Juliana Solomon, to call, one Azmi Ali as a witness for the plaintiffs.

Earlier, the court also rejected Dato' Suhaimi's application to have the case adjourned until after polling day of the two constituencies on Aug 24.

14/8/1991 (STAR, 15/8/1991)

KOTA BARU, Wed.- Development issues have dominated the campaigning in Sungai Pinang and Limbongan, which entered its third day today.

Both the BN and Semangat 46 have focused on development programmes in a bid to woo the 2,000 "fence-sitters" who are likely to decide the outcome in Sungai Pinang.

Kelantan Umno, deputy chief Senator Annuar Musa has pledged more projects in the area if the BN candidate was returned.

Encik Annuar's aides, said feedback showed that many people who voted for the opposition in the October general election has been responsive towards the pledged.

"To them, better living conditions and opportunity are more important than politics," they said.

Tumpat Umno division deputy head Dato' Haji Dusuki Haji Ahmad told a ceramah in Sungai Pinang that voters should elect a candidates who enjoyed close ties with the federal authorities.

"If you elect the wrong man, only the candidate will gain from the by-election.

"He will lead a better life but you will continue to suffer," he said.

Most Umno speakers also capitalized on the defection of 120 Semangat members to Umno on Monday.

The defection of 120 Semangat members to Umno on Monday.

However, they praised Mentri Besar Haji Nik Aziz Nik Mat for making efforts to improve relations with the Federal Government.

One veteran Umno speaker said Kelantanese were sensitive about and "it will not go down well to attack a religious teacher like the Mentri Besar."

15/8/1991 (NST, 16/8/1991)

PASIR PUTEH, Thurs.- Umno is the only party that can bring about changes to Kelantan and its people, Umno Youth Chief Dato' Seri Najib Tun Razak said today.

He said the party and not Semangat 46 is the saviour of the Malays.

He said since BN lost the 39 State seats contested in the last general election in the State, development has come to a standstill under the opposition rule.

He urged voters in Limbongan and Sungai Pinang not to wait for another five years to see development taking place in Kelantan.

Launching "Awareness Programmes" organized by the Kelantan Umno youth here, he said, development was assured if Umno wins the seats.

Later speaking to reporters, he said there were encouraging signs that the party was gaining support in the State.

"We are mindful that the opposition should not be taken for granted since we suffered a major defeat in the last general election," he said.

He said the election machinery was well prepared to encounter the opposition and also to explain the issues on development during the by-elections.

On rumours that certain Semangat 46 State Assemblymen might defect to Umno, he said "I will not be surprised".

He expressed confidence that Semangat 46 members would join Umno if BN performed well in the by-elections.

"They (Semangat 46 State Assemblymen) are adopting a wait-and-see attitude as they are afraid of the anti-hopping law introduced by the Kelantan State Assembly during its sitting on April 25.

15/8/1991 (STAR, 16/8/1991)

KOTA BARU, Thurs.- More than 1,000 voters are "missing" from Sungai Pinang and Limbongan constituencies, an exercise to locate voters has revealed.

The finding has accused much concern to Semangat 46 because 80 per cent of the missing voters are said to be Semangat supporters.

And in Sungai Pinang where the contest is expected to be close, it has prompted Semangat workers to launch a "voter-tracing exercise."

Kelantan Semangat chief Haji Rozali Isohak told the Star today 500 of the missing voters were in Sungai Pinang while in Limbongan, the number was slightly higher.

"We are concerned as about 400 of the affected voters from Sungai Pinang are our supporters. The number of Semangat voters affected in Limbongan is about the same," he said.

In Limbongan, however, Semangat is not as concerned over the missing voters as preliminary reports show that the party is well ahead.

In Sungai Pinang, an official at the Semangat by-election operations centre, however, said it was crucial for the party to locate the 400 voters.

"It cannot be denied that both Umno and Semangat are banking on the support of the 2,000 fence-sitters in the constituency.

"The 400 missing Semangat voters will give BN the advantage," he said.

Umno has about 4,500 members in Sungai Pinang while Semangat has 1,800, and Pas about 3,000. There are 15,430 voters in the constituency.

A state Umno spokesman said BN was aware but not was taking the situation seriously because not many of the affected voters **"are our people"**.

They said in Sungai Pinang, only half of the 100 non-Semangat missing voters are Umno supporters.

"The rest fall into the category of fence-sitter. To us, it is more important to concentrate on our house-to-house campaign to woo the 2,000 fence-sitters in the constituency," he added.

At the ceramahs, Umno leaders are harping on the **"strained"** relations between Semangat and Pas and urged voters to back the incumbents who had joined Umno to help constituents and bring more development.

Umno information chief Dato' Hussien Ahmad and Tumpat division deputy chief Dato' Haji Dasuki Haji Ahmad have urged voters to back BN candidate who join Umno for the sake of his voters.

In Limbongan, BN candidate Haji Wan Najib explained to voters that he joined Umno to serve his constituents because only a candidate with close ties with the Federal Government could perform effectively.

The by election were caused after the State Assembly declared the two seat vacant on July 3.

Former Assemblymen Haji Nordin (Sungai Pinang) and Haji Wan Najib (Limbongan) are defending their seats on BN tickets.

Semangat had fielded Haji Mahmud Yaakub and Haji Samat Mamat in Sungai Pinang and Limbongan. Independents have also joined in turning the contests into four-cornered fights in both seats.

18/8/1991 (NST, 19/8/1991)

PASIR PUTIH, Sun.- Umno Vice-president Dato' Abdullah Haji Ahmad Badawi said Pas and Semangat 46 should not politicize the meeting between Prime Minister Dato' Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad and Mentri Besar Haji Nik Abdul Aziz Nik Mat in the Sungai Pinang and Limbongan by-elections campaigns.

What was important was that Prime Minister was willing to meet the Mentri Besar, and therefore the meeting should not have been politicised.

"I was told that Semangat 46 and Pas leaders are saying that because of the meeting, there was no need for the people of Kelantan to vote for Barisan Nasional (BN) candidates in the polls as the Prime Minister had, agreed to continue to help develop Kelantan.

"I can assure the people that the Federal Government will discharge its responsibilities in providing development to Kelantan as well as other States as stipulated in the Federal constitution.

"The Kelantan Government should also be concerned with its responsibilities to develop the State and not pass on those responsibilities to develop to the Federal Government," Dato' Abdullah said when opening

the Parent-Teacher Association of Sekolah Rendah Kebangsaan Kamil's meeting here.

He said the Federal Government was not out to victimize the Kelantanese by stopping Federal programmes for the State.

"In this respect, Dr Mahathir was willing to meet Haji Nik Aziz," he added.

When asked whether the meeting between Dr Mahathir and Haji Nik Aziz will benefit Umno as it showed that Pas has put Semangat 46 aside, he said: "This is one interpretation and we can see the logic. But what was important was that Dr Mahathir was willing to meet the Mentri Besar," he added.

"With the Semangat 46 and Pas politicizing the issue, it seems that they are depending on Dr Mahathir to win in the polls.

He said it was the Government's intention to provide a balanced development in the country and this meant balancing development between the west and the east coast States.

"The Federal Government needs to ensure that the nation's stability and security is maintained.

"The people should vote for a party which has the means to deliver development," he added.

18/8/1991 (NST, 19/8/1991)

KOTA BARU, Sun.- A Semangat 46 Member of Parliament in Kelantan is expected to announce his decision to quit the party and rejoin Umno tomorrow.

Sources said the MP was said to have harboured the desire to rejoin Umno and was waiting for the right moment to do it.

The sources said the Limbongan and Sungai Pinang by-elections was said to be the right time for the MP to make his move as he did not want the people to vote for the wrong candidate.

Following this move, more Semangat State Assemblymen would follow the MP's footsteps as they could no longer stand the actions of their leaders who gave in to Pas, the sources said.

They said several Semangat leaders were also complaining the party was not given much in the State administration.

The sources said Pas in did not consult their Semangat counterparts before implementing many State policies.

19/8/1991 (NST, 20/8/1991)

KOTA BARU, Mon.- Machang Member of Parliament (MP) Ahmad Shukri Hassan today announced his decision to quit Semangat 46 and rejoin Umno together with 400 of his supporters.

The others included Semangat 46 Machang division secretary Deraman Jusoh, treasurer Apandi Mat Zain, information chief Mohd Noor Rahman and committee members Norwani Mat Sarip, Sihal Yusof, Rosdi Awang, Megat Jaafar, Zami Jusoh and Hassan Ismail.

In addition, 36 other branch leaders as well as divisional youth chief Wan Zulkifli, secretary Mohasalmi Mamat, treasurer Mat Soh Saleh, information chief Mah Hussien and committee member Mat Isa, Ghazali Noor, Aziz Che Kob and Rosli Che Kob also quit to join Umno.

Encik Ahmad Shukri, the Semangat 46 Machang division chief, is the second Semangat MP in Kelantan to quit the party and rejoin Umno. The first was Semangat Youth chief and Pasir Mas MP, Haji Ibrahim Ali, who returned to Umno's fold last month.

With Ahmad Shukri's return to Umno, Semangat 46 is now left with five MPs in Kelantan from their original seven after the last general election. The other six parliamentary seats in the State are held by Pas.

He said he decided to leave Semangat because the party had lost its political direction and its existence was no longer acknowledged by pas in ruling Kelantan.

He said he was joining Umno with the confidence that the party now was the continuation of the old Umno and believing in its struggle for the Malays and Islam.

19/8/1991 (STAR, 20/8/1991)

KUALA LUMPUR, Mon.- The High Court revoked today the order to auction the PWTC which it had granted to Bank Bumiputera Malaysia Bhd (BBMB) on Feb 28, 1989.

Mr Justice Datuk Anuar Zainal Abidin allowed the application by BBMB to discontinue its originating summons dated Oct 26, 1988, with liberty to file afresh.

The judge granted the application in his chambers after all parties said they has no objection to the application.

BBMB has obtained an order to auction the PWTC and the land on which it stands to recover a \$200 million loan given to the old Umno to finance its construction. The interest on the loan is 50,000 a day.

BBMB has named the Official Assignee, Umno president Dato' Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, treasurer Tun Daim Zainudin, former Secretary-general Dato' Seri Sanusi Junid and former Umno deputy-president Dato' Musa Hitam as defendants in its application for an order for sale.

In the supporting affidavits, Cik Norhayati Hashim, BBMB legal manager, said the bank had requested the court to vacate the auction date of April 11, 1989, as the parties were negotiating a settlement.

"When the matter came up for the mention on June 14 this year, Dr Mahathir, Tun Daim and Dato' Seri Sanusi has applied to the Official Assignee, pursuant to Section 17 B (1) of the Societies Act to have assets of the deregistered Umno to be transferred to Umno Baru," said Cik Norhayati.

"One of the assets is the property which is the subject matter of these proceedings," she added.

Cik Norhayati said that the application was pending approval before the Official Assignee.

She said the defendants' counsel had informed the judge at the last hearing date that the Official Assignee required more than 50 per cent of the members of the deregistered party to file statutory declarations that the were members of the old party and are now of members of the Umno Baru.

"This is to ensure proper take over of assets of the deregistered Umno by Umno Baru for the Official Assignee," added Cik Norhayati.

"In view of the sure certainty of Umno Baru taking over the assets of the deregistered Umno and the Official Assignee having no objections on the matter, it was decided (at the meeting on Aug 13) that the bank withdraw these proceedings with liberty to file afresh.

"Once the assets and liabilities are transferred to Umno Baru, the bank has the opportunity to re-negotiate and / or re-finance the loan that was granted on more favourable terms," she added.

21/8/1991 (STAR, 22/8/1991)

KOTA KINABALU, Wed.- Sabah Umno liaison committee deputy chairman Tun Datu Mustapha Datu Harun, who celebrated his 73rd birthday last night, pledged to continue to serve the country and people.

"I'll do my utmost to carry on serving the people even if I have to drag my feet to do so," he said at a dinner in his honour by friends at a hotel here.

"My wish is to see Sabah progress smoothly and that everybody happily," he said.

Also present were land and Co-operative Development Minister Tan Sri Haji Sakaran Dandai and several State Umno leaders.- BERNAMA

21/8/1991 (STAR, 22/8/1991)

PASIR PUTIH, Wed.- The Kelantan Government has committed a grave offence by holding back the \$8 million balancing grants given by the Federal Government to the local government.

Deputy Prime Minister Abdul Ghafar Baba said today the state government had been dishonest.

Encik Ghafar, accompanied by Public Enterprise Minister Dato' Dr Yusof Noor and Youth and Sports Minister Senator Haji Annuar Musa, is here on a two-day campaign for the Limbongan and Sungai Pinang by-elections.

On the by-election, Encik Ghafar said he had noted a wind of change in the thinking of the voters in the two constituencies, adding that the voters were talking about development and progress.

"In the past the voters harped on Islam. When the people realize that the development is vital, it paves the way for a BN victory," he said.

Encik Ghafar said the Umno leadership did not object to the Kelantan Umno's proposal to draw up a manifesto for the Sungai Pinang seat, but advised the party to keep its pledged reasonable.

"To us in BN, it is better to lose a seat if we have to lie to the people to win it. So, the state Umno should view the pledges carefully to ensure that all promises can be kept," he said.

22/8/1991 (NST, 23/8/1991)

KOTA BARU, Thurs.- The High Court's decision today regarding the status of two former Kelantan State Assemblymen has no bearing on the decision made by the Legislative Assembly to declare vacant the State seats of Limbongan and Sungai Pinang, Pas legal adviser Haji Wan Mutalib Embong said today.

"The court ruling has no effect on the State Legislative Assembly's decision. It would have a bearing if the court ruled that the anti-hopping law is null and void," he said.

The two sacked Assemblymen, Haji Nordin Salleh and Haji Wan Najib, today obtained an order from the Kuala Lumpur High Court that they were members of the party.

Haji Wan Mutalib, met after a six-hour Pas steering committee meeting at the official residence of Mentri Besar Haji Nik Abdul Aziz today, said the by-elections for the two State seats should proceed as scheduled.

"When the House decided to vacate the seats, it was satisfied that Haji Nordin and Haji Wan Najib had switched from Semangat 46 to Umno and the ruling was made according to the anti-party hopping law," Haji Wan Mutalib said.

23/8/1991 (STAR, 24/8/1991)

KUALA LUMPUR, Fri.- More than 90 per cent of the Umno branches have held their annual general meetings, Umno Secretary-general Dato' Mohamed Rahmat said today.

He said 9,543 of the 10,024 branches had held meetings while the rest had not or could not hold the meetings due to various reasons.

Speaking to reporters after a meeting with party divisional secretaries, he said among the reasons were membership problem and suspension by the division.

"In principle, a division cannot suspend a branch. It can recommend to the supreme council and only the council has the power to suspend any branch," he said.

He said about 10 cases of such suspension had been reported and **"the problem would be studied."**

Dato' Mohamed said branches which could resolve their problems would be given time to hold their annual meetings two weeks before the general meetings of their divisions.

Umno divisions had been directed to hold their meetings between Aug 1 and Sept 30, he said.

Dato' Mohamed said this year's Umno general assembly, from Nov 7 to 10, would also amend the party's constitution. The debate on the amendment would be on Nov 8.

"The management committee will decide on the provisions to be amended," he added.

A total of 1,433 delegates would attend the general assembly and Umno Sabah would send observers from 20 divisions.

On the position of Wan Mohamad Najib and Haji Nordin Salleh in the Kelantan Legislative Assembly, he said Umno's legal adviser was now studying the implication of yesterday's court decision that they were never members of Semangat 46.- Bernama

23/8/1991 (NST, 24/8/1991)

KUALA TERENGGANU, Fri.- Umno Youth is confident that the Barisan Nasional (BN) candidates for the Sungai Pinang and Limbongan constituencies stand a good chance of winning in the by-elections tomorrow.

Its deputy Nazri Aziz said the High Court decision yesterday declaration that both candidates were not members of the Semangat 46 was a good sign for Umno and the BN.

"It will be futile for the Kelantan people to vote for the Semangat 46 candidates tomorrow. They are wise enough to think for themselves and vote for the BN candidates," he said after opening the Kuala Nerus Umno meeting here.

He said it was clear now that both Semangat 46 ex-assemblymen who joined Umno were the legislative assemblymen of the Sungai Pinang and Limbongan constituencies.

Thus, the decision by the Kelantan State Assembly to declare the two seats were vacant was wrong.

He added that Umno would continue to urge the Kelantan voters in the two constituencies to vote in favour of BN so that more development could be carried out at the places.

"Our aim to help further develop Kelantan so that the people can live comfortably. We will give priority to places where voters has chosen BN candidates to lead this areas," he said.

23/8/1991 (NST, 24/8/1991)

KUALA LUMPUR, Fri.- All administrative work of the Barisan Nasional at the national level will be managed by Umno headquarters from today.

To facilitate the move, Umno's executive secretary Yaakob Haji Mohamad has assumed the post of executive secretary of BN. He took over the functions of Encik Nasarudin Alang Saidin who was BN's acting executive secretary.

Umno Secretary-general Dato' Mohamad Rahmat, in announcing this today, said the decision was endorsed by BN's working committee at a meeting recently.

"The decision was taken to cut administrative cost, reduce manpower and eliminate duplication of duties. Involving only administration work, the move is to ensure that BN's machinery is more active," he told reporters after meeting 133 Umno division secretaries here.

He said the move should not be construed as Umno taking over BN.

He added that the move was only an extension of what had been done at the branch, division and parliamentary constituency levels.

Meanwhile, Encik Yaakob said the move would not mean retrenchment of staff at the BN headquarters.

"They will work together with the Umno headquarters staff. This will save BN from having to hire new people to handle any increase in workload since half of the burden will be borne by Umno staff.

"BN's headquarters will also remain at the 8th floor of Menara Tun Hussien Onn while I and the staff involved will move between the two headquarters whenever necessary," he said.

24/8/1991 (STAR, 25/8/1991)

KOTA BARU, Sat.- Semangat 46 retained both the Sungai Pinang and Limbongan state seats today but with slashed majorities which observers interpreted as "moral victory" for Umno.

Although thousands of Semangat workers and supporters outside the vote tallying centres in Tumpat and Pasir Putih whooped with joy when the results were announced, some Pas leaders appeared disturbed by the smaller wins.

The defeat of the incumbents was obviously disappointing for Barisan workers on the ground, but leaders were quite happy with the result, saying that "it shows Umno has gained tremendous ground in just 10 months (since the October general election)."

In Sungai Pinang, where the fight was expected to be a closer, Haji Mahmud Yaakob, 62, from Semangat defeated Umno's Haji Nordin Salleh, 47, by 1,994 votes while in Limbongan, Semangat's Haji Samat Mamat, 56, won by a 1,560 vote margin.

The Sungai Pinang result were announced by returning officer Haji Mohamed Aiseri Alias at 9.45pm at the operations rooms of the Tumpat district land office.

Haji Mahmud obtained 6,531 votes against Haji Nordin's 4,537. The two independents in the contest, Wan Abdul Rahman and Wan Hassan both 54, polled 25 and 38 votes respectively, and lost their deposits.

The turnout was 10,94 or 71.25 per cent of the total 15,430 voters in the constituency. They were 223 spoilt votes.

In Limbongan, Semangat's Haji Samat Mamat, 55, polled 5,808 votes to defeat BN's Haji Wan Najib Wan Mohamed, 50, who got 4,248 votes.

The two independent candidates Mat Hassan Jusoh, 43, and Fandi Hassan, 47, received 60 and 26 votes respectively. They lost their deposits. There were 92 spoilt votes.

Returning officer Haji Ismail Yusoff, who announced the results at 9.30pm, said 10,234 or 74.8 per cent of the 13,681 voters cast their ballots.

However, Semangat only managed a 1,560-vote margin this time compared to the comfortable 3,732-vote majority it had secured in last October's general election. Semangat had taken Sungai Pinang by 3,180 votes the last time.

Both Pas and Semangat leaders said they were happy with the wins despite the reduced majorities.

They attributed the narrower margins to the absence of Angkatan voters who they said did not see the urgency to return from other parts of the country to vote as the results of the by-elections would not change the state government.

No BN leader was seen at either vote tallying centre while the counting was in progress or when the results were announced. BN supporters were vastly outnumbered by their opposition counterparts.

25/8/1991 (NST, 26/8/1991)

KUALA LUMPUR, Sun.- Finance Minister Dato' Seri Anwar Ibrahim said today although the BN lost in yesterday's Limbongan and Sungai Pinang by-elections, the party performed better than in the last general election.

He said there was already a trend towards a change in the two constituencies, but the Kelantan people needed to be given more time to enable them to evaluate Semangat 46 and Pas' capabilities.

"This is a good sign and I am confident that a change will take place in the near future," the Umno vice-president told reporters after launching the Treasury Club jogathon and family day here.

He also congratulated BN supporters for doing a good job in a "difficult" situation,

Other Umno leaders echoed similar sentiments, saying that the majorities of the Semangat 46 candidates showed that support for the party had dwindled.

Umno vice-president Dato' Abdullah Haji Ahmad Badawi said the Government would carry out a post-mortem on the reasons for the defeat.

Speaking to reporters after attending a Nusantara Malay Students Gathering at Universiti Pertanian Malaysia, Dato' Abdullah said the BN would continue its efforts to win the State in the next election.

Umno vice president Dato' Seri Sanusi Junid said the results of the by-elections showed that the majority gained by the Opposition had been **"slashed tremendously"**.

"Although we lost our performance has markedly improved to the general election last year.

"I congratulate BN's machinery for its success in the Opposition," he told reporters after opening Seputeh Umno divisional meeting here.

25/8/1991 (NST, 26/8/1991)

TUMPAT, Sun.- Barisan Nasional's defeat in the Sungai Pinang by-election was unexpected, said its candidate Haji Nordin Salleh.

"The response and support from the people for BN during the campaign week was very encouraging, but the results showed otherwise," he told reporters when met at his residence here after the results of the by-election were announced last night.

However, he accepted the defeat in the spirit of competition and congratulated the Semangat 46 candidate, Haji Mahmud Haji Yahya for his victory.

Haji Nordin, the former Semangat Sungai Pinang State Assembly who joined Umno, but was sacked when the Kelantan State Assembly passed the anti-hop law obtained 4,537 votes, losing by 1,994 votes to Haji Mahmud.

Haji Nordin said a post-mortem on the by-election would be carried out to ascertain the factors leading to BN's defeat.

"This by-election was held in an unusual circumstances. We will look into all aspects and find the reasons for the defeat," he added.

25/8/1991 (NST, 26/8/1991)

KOTA BARU, Sun.- Numbers seldom lie. For Barisan Nasional (BN) and Semangat 46, the two main contestants in last Saturday's bruising by-elections, numbers and statistics have great significance for both.

In the contest which both parties claimed to have a special meaning, several pointers have emerged which should offer both camps some ground indicators regarding their respective popularity and support.

Semangat 46 threw off the BN's strong challenge to emerge victors in both areas, albeit with reduced majority on both counts. In Sungai Pinang, its candidate Haji Mahmud Yaakub won with the majority of 1,994 votes over Haji Nordin Salleh of the BN.

Haji Nordin won the seat in the last general election on a Semangat 46 tickets, giving his party then a majority of 3,180.

In Limbongan, Semangat 46's Haji Samat Mamat defeated the BN's Haji Wan Mohamed Najib Wan Mohamad with a majority of 1,560 votes. Haji Wan Najib had in 1990 won the seat when he contested on a Semangat 46 ticket with a majority of 3,632.

Analyst from both parties have gone over the figures and developed their individual theories on the defeat or success. Without doubt, their analysis will be further scrutinized by senior party leaders as both parties conduct their respective post-mortems.

Whatever report these analysts furnish their party headquarters, on a clear indication that emerged is the reduced influence of the Semangat 46 has on voters, and the obvious inroads the BN, particularly Umno, has

made since losing the State to the Pas-Semangat 46 coalition in the last general election.

It must be said that the BN's claim in this matter is not without justification. For instance, in the Limbongan area, the BN support in Kg Sungai Kelong rose to 264 votes as against only 185 in the last general election while Semangat 46 secured 233, down from 439 the last time.

In the Sungai Pinang constituency, the BN attracted 425 votes in the Kedai Baru area as against 359 in the last election. Semangat 46 had its share reduced from 506 to 337. Kedai Baru's support to the BN came mainly from non-Malay votes.

BN's gain was also seen in many other areas, a fact which pleased party officials and supporters. They stressed that victory had eluded them, but that the party's performance showed great promise for the future. BN believe that it has regained some lost ground in Kelantan, though they agreed that much work remains to be done if the East Coast State is to return to the dacing's folds.

Semangat 46 did win in the by-elections, but the party could not take great comfort from the victory. Its leaders are aware that there has been considerable reduction in influence, and that it secured the win with the help of Pas' loyal supporters.

In the last couple of days before the polls, Umno officials had thought that the battle had already been lost. The public appearance of Semangat 46 president Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah appeared to have given the party fresh impetus. But it turned out that this had barely helped the party.

Semangat 46 appears to have more worries after the by-elections than the BN. It could not claim to have comprehensive support of the voters, and that it must forever look behind its shoulders to ensure that its remaining following is intact.

Within 10 months, four Semangat Wakil Rakyat - two assemblymen and two MPs - have accrossed the fence to return to Umno. They may not

be the party big wings, but their crossover may have had some bearing on the party's reduced majority and raise some doubts in the minds of rank and file members regarding their allegiance to the party.

The selection of the two candidates, however, did not seem to go down well with certain section of the Umno grassroots. This is evident in Sungai Pinang . In the Kok Pasir area within the constituency, the BN received 426 votes (mostly from Umno) in the 1990 poll. But this time around, it received only 285 votes.

The Semangat 46 performance was more consistent - 572 votes in 1990 and 554 last weekend.

This showed that many Umno members did not come out to lend their support behind the candidates. Some party insiders claim that as many as 1,000 Umno voters stayed away from the polls to protest against the choice of candidates.

Haji Wan Najib and Haji Nordin, it seems, were not the best of candidates. Their defeat is described as **"good riddance to bad rubbish"** by some members of both Semangat 46 and Umno. They said the voters have done Umno and Semangat 46 a service by getting rid of them through the normal democratic process.

That Umno's defeat was also due to an unsettled rank and file problems also cannot be disputed. Umno at the divisional and State levels need to improved their machinery in retaining the support of their members.

But Umno leaders seemed unperturbed over the loss. The party entered the fray with a slightly wider objective. Winning was desirable of course, but the part felt that reducing the Semangat 46's majority was unequally important task.

It failed to win the seats, but it did manage to dent Semangat 46's had not succeeded in consolidating its popularity appeared to have comforted Umno as they retreat to nurse their wounded pride and prestige.

Umno may find encouragement from the defeat, but it should work quickly and whole-heartedly to bring its Kelantan house in order. The result should spur the party devise a new strategy in wooing voters in the State, starting with the maintaining long-term contacts with its supporters.

The voters of Kelantan are tired of listening told promises of development. They are not easily swayed by rhetorics promising them a new bridge, better roads and a host of other basic infrastructure.

Semangat 46 mentioned very little of development, but its leaders used parochial sentiments frequently to bring in the crowd and support. Of course Semangat 46 also "sold" the name of Kelantan Mentri Besar Haji Nik Abdul Aziz Nik Mat each time a ceramah was held.

Haji Nik Aziz is seen as a simple State chief executive, a Semangat found it profitable to use his image to garner votes. This is not to say that Semangat 46's Tengku Razaleigh has lost draw, but voters seems to warm towards a less flamboyant leaders.

But then, a win is a win. Semangat 46 seems safe of the time being, and the anti-hop law, which spooked hesitant potential defectors, over the weekend, may just prevent further crassovers in the immediate future.

25/8/1991 (NST, 26/8/1991)

AMPANG JAYA, Sun.- The biggest challenge facing Umno as Malaysia advances into 21st century is to shed the image that Malays are incapable of working in the high-technology sector and that they lack seriousness in their endeavours, Selangor Mentri Besar Tan Sri Haji Muhammad Taib said today.

This image, he said, will be further entrenched if Malays ignores the Prime Minister's Vision 2020 which is aimed at equipping Malays with the technological and management skills to compete with others.

"Umno's founders fought for independence and then set about providing the much-needed infrastructure as the country developed.

"The nation has progressed a lot in terms of physical development and the more difficult task of human resources development is now with us," said Tan Sri Muhammad when opening the Ampang Jaya Umno division delegates meeting here.

Among those who attended the meeting were former Selangor Mentri Besar Dato' Haji Ahmad Razali, Ampang Jaya Umno division head Dato' Haji Mufti Suib and the division's Umno Youth head Fuad Dato' Hassan.

In order for Malays to benefit from Vision 2020, Tan Sri Muhammad urged Umno members to sharpen their awareness of what they party's top leadership hoped to achieve for the country and not to shy away from working in the high-technology sectors.

25/8/1991 (STAR, 26/8/1991)

JOHOR BARU, Sun.- The Johor Malay Unity Conference, which led to many Malays here rejoining Umno in 1988, will be documented in a book soon.

Mentri Besar Tan Sri Haji Muhyiddin Yassin said the events of his meetings with the late Tun Hussien Onn and Tan Sri Haji Abdul Jalil Hassan whom the state depended on to organize the meet would also be documented.

"I have asked Parit Sulong MP Ruhanie Ahmad to write this book to document our task in re-uniting the Malays after the old party was declared unlawful by the High Court," he added.

Tan Sri Muhyiddin said the book was important in order to set the record straight.

He added that certain quarters has claimed that the conference was spearheaded by Dato' Musa Hitam and Dato' Shahrir Samad and had accused him of not backing him.

"Let me tell now that every Umno member played his part in the conference and that not a single leader can claim credit for its success.

"I managed to in to influence Tun Hussien Onn to attend the function. I have to explain to him the importance of Umno for Johor Malays," he said.

He said the roles played by Prime Minister Dato' Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad and his deputy Abdul Ghafar Baba were also important because they had given him their normal support to organize the event.

25/8/1991 (NST, 26/8/1991)

KUALA LUMPUR, Sun.- Umno vice-president Dato' Seri Sanusi Junid today likened the spirit of Semangat 46 to that of the British colonial masters whose main aim was to see the Malays divided and weak.

He said the people should realize by now that the spirit advocated by Semangat 46 was not that of the Malays because the Malays had always propagated unity.

"The leaders of Semangat must have learned from the white man that the only way to weaken the Malays is to divide them," he said at the opening the Seputeh Umno division meeting.

He warned the Malays not to be misled by the struggle of Semangat whose leaders were only interested to further their political aspirations and to wrest power from the current government.

He said this should serve as a warning to Umno leaders to curb their political aspirations which, if left unchecked, would destroy not only the party but also the country.

Dato' Seri Sanusi also said the Malays must be change their attitude and be progressive, especially now when the country is heading towards an industrialized era.

25/8/1991 (NST, 26/8/1991)

KOTA KINABALU, Sun.- Prime Minister Dato' Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad will make a one-day visit to Sabah on Sept 11.

Umno Secretary-general Dato' Mohamed Rahmat said today while in the State, the Umno president would visit Kota Belud where he will lay a foundation stone to mark entry of Umno to Sabah.

The foundation will also commemorate Umno's victory in the Usukan by-elections in May this year, earning its first seat in the State Legislative Assembly.

Dr Mahathir will also visit the Sabah Umno headquarters here and attend a briefing on the party's membership drive.

The visit will be the first by the Prime Minister after launching the official expansion of Umno to Sabah in February.

25/8/1991 (NST, 26/8/1991)

KOTA KINABALU, Sun.- Umno is optimistic of achieving its target of recruiting 200,000 members in Sabah by the end of this year.

Umno Secretary-general Dato' Mohamed Rahmat said about 150,000 membership applications from the State have already been approved by the party headquarters in Kuala Lumpur.

"Another 50,000 membership applications are being processed," he told reporters after meeting State Umno Youth and Wanita leaders at the Sabah Umno headquarters here.

26/8/1991 (NST, 27/8/1991)

PENANG, Mon.- Umno members must ensure that the objectives stated in Vision 2020 are attained, part vice-president Dato' Abdullah Haji Ahmad Badawi said yesterday.

"As the nation's dominant political party, Umno must first ensure the continued peace and stability.

"And as a Malay-based movement, it has the role to guide to guide the community in seizing opportunities arising from the implementation of the country's economic development plans," he added.

Dato' Abdullah, who is the Foreign Minister, said the Malays must have the right attitude and values to attain these objectives.

He was speaking at the opening of the delegates of Umno Nibong Tebal division at the Jawi multi-purpose hall, 35km from here.

Dato' Abdullah urged the Malays to focus their energy on development rather than politics "since it is meaningless to talk excessively about the latter just for its own sake".

He also said Penang non-Malays should not worry when the Malays paid attention to their position in the State.

"The Malay do it not to confront other people but to assess their own position to others."

Dato' Abdullah said any plans carried out by those in power must give due regards to the Malays' strength because the stability of the Barisan Nasional Government would be affected if that strength was weakened.

"Umno's contribution to ensure than non-Malays benefit from a stable State Government that they presently enjoy must be recognized," he added.

26/8/1991 (NST, 27/8/1991)

MALACCA, Mon.- Kelantan Umno plans to set up elections committees in all State constituencies as part of its programmes to stop the influence of Semangat 46 and its president, Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah, in the State.

Its deputy liaison chairman, Senator Haji Annuar Musa, said support for Semangat 46 had begun to dwindle judging from the results of the recent by-elections in the Limbongan and Sungai Pinang in Kelantan.

He was confident that Umno Kelantan need only a year to neutralize the influence of Semangat 46 and Tengku Razaleigh.

"Tengku Razaleigh is now clinging on the popularity of Haji Nik Aziz (the Kelantan Menteri Besar). Every Semangat 46 ceramah, the name of Haji Nik Aziz crops up," he told reporters after attending a high tea gathering in conjunction with the State Women's Day celebration at the Dewan Hang Tuah yesterday.

He said the decision to field the two candidates, deemed unpopular among Umno supporters as both were Semangat "turncoats", was primarily motivated to encourage more defections from the Semangat camp.

"We want to tell those who are outside Umno that they are given recognition if they returned to the Umno fold. This will encourage other Semangat members to join Umno," he said.

He said although BN lost the by-elections, it was a moral victory since the winning majority had been reduced.

26/8/1991 (NST, 27/8/1991)

KOTA KINABALU, Mon.- Ten former Umno wanita leaders are among those appointed as pro tem heads of the 20 Wanita Umno divisions State.

Former Usno Wanita movement secretary Aminah Ambrose said the appointments were announced by deputy Wanita Umno leader Dato' Napsiah Omar during her visit here recently.

The former Usno Wanita leaders are Puan Aminah (Marudu), Puan Turudi Majawan (Bandau), Puan Eyung Latun (Kota Belud), Hajjah Sapiyah Hassan (Gaya), Puan Norjan Badar (Papar), Puan Salmah Yaakub (Kimanis), Puan Leong Chau Chu (Padas), Puan Zaiton OKK Anik (Pensiangan), Puan Omal Bidadari (Silam), and Puan Rodiah Radius (Semporna).

Puan Aminah said their names were proposed by the 20 Umno pro tem divisional heads in Sabah and was approved by the national Wanita Umno movement.

26/8/1991 (NST, 27/8/1991)

IPOH, Mon.- The High Court has the jurisdiction to determine whether the outcome of the by-elections for the Sungai Pinang and Limbongan assembly seats are valid, Dewan Rakyat Speaker Tan Sri Mohamed Zahir Haji Ismail said today.

He said the court could do so if there was an application by the aggrieved party.

"It now rests with the aggrieved party on whether it wants to pursue that matter in the court to determine whether the by-elections are valid," Tan Sri Zahir said.

He said under the law, there was nothing to stop the BN from seeking court action.

Tan Sri Mohamed Zahir was speaking to reporters after opening of the 23rd State Assembly Speakers conference today.

When asked whether the Kelantan State Assembly had the right to question the court's ruling after it had made its final decision, Tan Sri

Mohamad Zahir said this was left to the State Assembly is both the institutions had different roles to play.

The Kelantan State Assembly had on July 3 declared vacant the Sungai Pinang and Limbongan State seats held by BN assemblymen Haji Nordin Salleh and Haji Wan Mohamad Najib Wan Mohamad respectively.

The move was made in accordance with an April amendment to the State constitution which provides for a seat to be declared vacant if an assemblyman ceases to be a member of the party under whose ticket he was elected.

It was claimed that Haji Nordin and Haji Wan Najib had contested the October general election on Semangat 46.

31/8/1991 (STAR, 1/9/1991)

PASIR PUTIH, Sat.- The Federal Government will act against the Pas-led Kelantan Government if it victimized government officers and petty traders who support Umno, Youth and Sports Minister Senator Haji Annuar Musa said here last night.

"The mass sacking civil servants who supported Umno could hamper co-operation between two parties," he said at a gathering held at the home of the former State Assemblyman for Limbongan Haji Wan Najib.

Senator Annuar, who is state Umno deputy liaison head, said that since the APU pact comprising Pas, Semangat 46, Berjasa, Hamim, took control of the state last year, "it has not stopped, until now, in dismissing civil servants who are strong Umno supporters."

He said the state government has also threatened to withdraw the licences of petty traders in Pasir Putih if they continued to back Umno.

The Federal Government was monitoring developments and, if necessary, it would not approve the projects submitted by the state

government, including the 16 proposals raised by Mentri Besar during his recent meeting with Prime Minister.- Bernama

1/9/1991 (NST, 2/9/1991)

KOTA BARU, Sun.- The Kelantan Government will back the State Legislative Assembly and its Speakers's decisions to adopt and dispense the anti-hop law even if the court decides that the law was unconstitutional and the removal of the Sungai Pinang and Limbongan Assemblymen was illegal.

Deputy Mentri Besar II Haji Rozali Isohak said the decision to back the state Legislative Assembly and its Speaker Haji Omar Mohamad was reached during a State Executive Council meeting last Thursday.

He was commenting on the recent statement by Umno Secretary-general Dato' Mohamed Rahmat who said Umno considered Haji Nordin Salleh and Haji Wan Mohd Najib were still the rightful Assemblymen for Sungai Pinang and Limbongan, respectively.

Therefore, Haji Rozali said, the Kelantan Government will stand by the State Legislative Assembly's April 25 decision to adopt the anti-hop and law and the July 3 declaration of the two seats vacant.

2/9/1991 (NST, 3/9/1991)

KUALA LUMPUR, Mon.- The High Court will hear on Sept 17 and 18 an application by two former Kelantan State Assemblymen for an order that the Aug 24 by-elections for their former constituencies should have been called off.

Haji Nordin Salleh (former Assemblyman for Sungai Pinang) and Haji Wan Najib Wan Mohamed (Limbongan, who filed the suit on Aug 13, were also the defeated candidates in the by-elections.

They won their seats in last October's general election on a Semangat 46 ticket, but later joined Umno.

The by-elections were held after their seats were declared vacant by the Kelantan Legislative Assembly on July 3 in accordance with an April 25 Amendment to the State constitution which required an Assemblyman to vacate his seat if he quit his party or was sacked by it. The enactment took retroactive effect from last Nov 18.

2/9/1991 (NST, 3/9/1991)

KUALA LUMPUR, Mon.- Umno leader Dato' Seri Najib Tun Razak today announced the appointment of Mohd Shafei Haji Apdal as Sabah Umno Youth vice-chairman.

The appointment took effect from today, Dato' Seri Najib said.

Encik Mohd Shafei, 34, is the political secretary to Land and Co-operative Development Minister Tan Sri Sakaran Dandai. He also Semporna Umno division's Youth leader.

When contacted, Encik Mohd Shafei thanked Dato' Seri Najib and Sabah Umno Youth chief Railey Haji Jeffrey. - Bernama

3/9/1991 (NST, 4/9/1991)

KOTA BARU, Tues.- Pas and not Semangat 46 proposed the anti-hop law, Deputy Mentri Besar Haji Abdul Halim Abdul Rahman said today.

He said State Pas leaders raised the idea during an Angkatan Perpaduan Ummah (APU) meeting last November, about a month after the coalition came to power.

"There was no question of Pas being pressured by Semangat 46 into adopting the law as claimed by BN leaders recently," Haji Abdul Halim said at his office here.

He was commenting on a statement by Umno Secretary-general Dato' Mohamad Rahmat on Aug 23 that the Kelantan Legislative Assembly was pressured by Semangat 46 to adopt the anti-hop law.

Haji Halim claimed he had not said such a thing to Information Minister Dato' Mohamad Rahmat when he met the latter in March.

"My attention in meeting Dato' Mohamed Rahmat was purely to pave the way for a meeting Menteri Besar Haji Nik Abdul Aziz Nik Mat and Prime Minister Dato' Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

"At the time, the efforts to get the meeting between Haji Nik Aziz and the Prime Minister was at a death-end and I hoped that together with Dato' Mohamed Rahmat an appointment could be made to make the meeting possible," he said.

4/9/1991 (NST, 5/9/1991)

BAGAN SERAI, Wed.- About 40 former members and supporters of Semangat 46 here have applied to join Umno.

Bagan Serai Umno division secretary Abdullah Din said today that the application forms were being processed together with 300 other applicants who have not joined any political party before.

He said that once their applications were approved by the party's headquarters, the membership of the Bagan Serai Umno division was expected to touch 8,500.

The division will also open two more branches soon. They will be in Kampung Depan Balai Polis Bagan Serai and Taman Indah Jaya at the 17th km Jalan Taiping-Kerian.

"Both these branches are expected to be approved before the end of the year.

Encik Abdullah said the division would hold its annual delegates general meeting on Sept 22.

4/9/1991 (NST, 5/9/1991)

KOTA BARU, Wed.- Mentri Besar Haji Nik Aziz Nik Mat today urged deputy State Umno liaison chief Senator Haji Annuar Musa to stop making statements which could jeopardize State Government efforts to administer Kelantan effectively.

He said Haji Annuar had been politicising the 16 Federal projects identified for the State under the Sixth Malaysia Plan.

Haji Nik Aziz said he had accepted Prime Minister request to reduce politicking in administering the State following their meeting in Prime Minister office on Aug 9.

The Mentri Besar's statement was made through his Press secretary, Haji Husam Musa.

Last Saturday, Haji Annuar warned APU not to victimize or threaten Umno supporters.

He said that if the threats were carried out, the party would take appropriate measures to assist the victims.

Haji Annuar also said he believed Haji Nik Aziz might not be involved in the victimization of Umno supporters but the others in the APU were the culprits.

Haji Husam said the Mentri Besar has given a directive that no political victimization should be carried out in any way whatsoever.

"If there are such cases, Haji Annuar should prove it so that the Mentri Besar can take necessary action, instead of just making allegations."

5/9/1991 (NST, 6/9/1991)

KUALA LUMPUR, Thurs.- Umno is investigating allegations that some members in Kelantan had worked against the party in the Sungai Pinang and Limbongan by-elections last month, its Secretary-general Dato' Mohamed Rahmat said today.

He said Umno could have won at least the Sungai Pinang seat if members had set aside their internal problems and their personal interests.

Dato' Mohamed was speaking to reporters at the Royal Malaysian Air Force base in Sungai Besi after seeing off the Yang di-Pertuan Agong and the Raja Permaisuri Agong Tuanku Bainun who were leaving on an official visit to China and South Korea.

In the by-elections, Umno candidates Haji Nordin Salleh (Sungai Pinang) and Wan Najib (Limbongan) lost their seats to Semangat 46 candidates.

Haji Nordin and Wan Najib win the seats when they contested under the Semangat 46 ticket at last year's general elections. The Kelantan State Assembly declared the seats vacant after the duo joined Umno as provided for under the State constitution.

5/9/1991 (NST, 6/9/1991)

TUMPAT, Thurs.- Semangat 46 president Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah today admitted his party had to rely heavily on Pas to ensure the victory of its candidates in the Sungai Pinang and Limbongan by-elections on Aug 24.

However, he said, he is not ashamed of admitting it, as Semangat 46 was relying on an Islamic Malay party, unlike Umno which had to rely on MCA and MIC in its efforts to win back the two seats.

"We thank Pas and other APU component parties for their contribution in making sure that we win in the by-elections," Tengku Razaleigh said in his speech at a thank giving ceremony for the party's

victory in the Sungai Pinang by-elections, at the district councils hall this evening.

5/9/1991 (NST, 6/9/1991)

PORT DICKSON, Sat.- Thousands of people have been denied membership in Umno because certain divisional and branch leaders have not forward their applications to party headquarters.

Umno Youth chief Dato' Seri Najib Tun Razak said this issue was discussed during then part's management committee meeting recently, chaired by Deputy President Ghafar Baba.

Some leaders rejected those seen as threat to their positions in the party, he said. The affected divisional and branch leaders would normally tell the applicants concerned that their application forms had either been misplaced or lost in the mail.

The Umno Youth chief was speaking at the joint opening of the Teluk Kemang Umno Youth and Wanita Umno annual delegates meeting at Kampung Pasir Panjang near here.

He described the practise as rampant.

Leaders must remember that only the party's Supreme Council could decide whether or not to accept an application as stated in Umno Constitution, said Dato' Seri Najib.

"Leaders at other levels cannot rejected applications but can write their comments."

Dato' Seri Najib advised those whose applications were rejected by any branch to send their forms directly to party headquarters.

6/9/1991 (STAR, 7/9/1991)

KANGAR, Fri.- Umno members must look at the concept of an "archipelago Malay" in a wider sense, Umno Youth leader Dato' Seri Najib Tun Razak said today.

He said that with the party spreading its wings to Sabah, the narrow meaning of "**Melayu**" (Malay) should be discarded because Umno members might have such names as John or Jefry instead of the normal Malay names.

Opening the Arau Umno Youth annual delegates' meeting here, Dato' Seri Najib who is Defence Minister, said the archeology Malay meant that nationalism, be it cultural or economic or any other form of development, but maintaining unity at all times.

Umno Youth, he said, would continue to defend Malay nationalism in the wider sense and oppose any deviation from that concept.

He also said that Vision 2020 was aimed at creating a progressive country and people, and that Umno members and the Malay community should adapt to changes to benefit from it.

Umno Youth, he said, would send a task force to campaign for BN Three (BN3) candidates in the coming election to ensure victory for the coalition. He said Umno Youth's assistance in the election has been officially requested. - Bernama

6/9/1992 (NST, 7/9/1991)

KOTA KINABALU, Fri.- Former state Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports Nahalan Haji Damsal today announced that he is resigning from PBS to join Umno.

He also withdrew an election petition in which he had sought a declaration that the victory of his Usno opponent in the Sekong constituency in the last election was null and void .

Encik Nahalan who contested the seat under a PBS ticket lost to Encik Pitting Mohamad Ali of Usno.

"I withdrew the petition out of respect for Tun Mustapha who asked me to do so," he told a press conference.

Tun Datu Mustapha, who is Sabah Umno deputy liaison committee head, was also present at the press conference.

Encik Nahalan, 36, said he wanted to study the finer points of politics through Umno which was the backbone of the BN.- Bernama

7/9/1991 (STAR, 8/9/1991)

More cracks are appearing in Semangat 46. This time, in the party's base in Kelantan.

Recent defections to Umno have worried many Semangat leaders who appear uncertain as to how much the party can do stop the exodus or rather how long the party can hold itself together.

With key leaders like former youth chief Haji Ibrahim Ali, Machang division head Shukri Hassan and Kelantan party secretary Kassim Ahmad setting the defection precedent, indications are that the party is starting to lose its grip in its "home-state".

Here, the party leaders are not so concerned over how much the votes will be affected.

It is more a question of party dignity. Defections reflects badly on the party among its other allies.

In Kelantan for one, the party needs to maintain its prestige among Pas leaders. On a wider scale, it has to protect its position in spearheading the formation of the united opposition front with DAP, PRM and IPF.

A senior Pas leader admitted that his party was uncertain over Semangat ability to hold its members.

"That is why we have kept our machinery and election networks separate so that we would know which party's support is eroding and by how much," he said.

Like many others, he also felt that the cracks in Kelantan may be more fatal to the Semangat than the initial shake-up the party faced when several key leaders quit the party after its dismal performance in the Oct 21 general election.

Said a Semangat leader: "When Hajjah Marina Yusof, Dato' Radzi Sheikh Ahmad and state party leaders in Kedah and Negeri Sembilan resigned, there were already defections all over the country. But, we could still tell members to look at Kelantan which was our solid base."

"The defections in Kelantan, however, give the impression that we are losing our hold even at home," he said.

What is even more worrying now is a recent **"split"** within the Kelantan Semangat which sees former secretary Kassim Ahmad heading a counter-Semangat campaign throughout the state.

Encik Kassim said he had already set up committees in all 13 parliamentary constituencies and **"we are working on the ground to convince members to return to Umno through house-to-house visits."**

While many Semangat leaders dismiss Encik Kassim's campaign as futile, others are not so sure.

"It is quite true that the strength of the party in Kelantan is built around the popularity of Tengku Razaleigh," a division leader said.

"But we have to admit that defections of MPs - Haji Ibrahim (Pasir Mas) and Encik Shukri (Machang) - has taken its toll on the party," he said.

"It is also not a secret anymore that others (Assemblymen) are also contemplating crossing.

"Here we are not asking about votes. We are talking about the party in itself. The voters may still be with Tengku Razaleigh but what will remain of the party of our leaders keep crossing?

But, even Umno leaders admit that Tengku Razaleigh is still a factor and he has managed to somewhat reduce the defections in certain places through more frequent visits to the Kelantan constituencies.

Tengku Razaleigh, when asked of this said: "You know of the ceramah we held in Machang after Encik Shukri crossed to Umno? The response was very encouraging. Do you think that the people are crossing over?"

"To us, leaders can come and go. The people in Kelantan are with the party the struggle.....and they understand when I tell them that I have only the struggle to offer," he said.

8/9/1991 (NST, 9/9/1991)

BACHOK, Sun.- Umno's chances of wresting back from Pas and Semangat 46 is increasing each day. a party supreme council member said.

Haji Ahmad Shahibudin Nor said this was because not only was Semangat 46 weak but many Pas members and supporters has also left the party to join Umno.

Speaking at a meeting with ex-Pas supporters in Kampung Sungai Hilir last night, he said many Semangat leaders at the Federal and State levels had quite the party because they had lost confidence in its struggle.

"Added with Pas members joining us, the road to our return to rule the State has been paved and we believe that our chances is growing day by day," said Haji Ahmad, who is also the State Umno liaison committee secretary.

At the function, Encik Abdullah Mohamed, 50, who represented 80 Pas members, announced their resignations from the party and said that they had applied to join Umno.

He said another 50 Pas members in the village would also quit to join Umno soon.

13/9/1991 (NST, 14/9/1991)

JOHOR BARU, Fri.- Umno has decided to sack 138 members after findings them guilty of working against the party in the last general election.

Umno Secretary-general Dato' Mohamad Rahmat said today the decision, based on the recommendation of the disciplinary committee, was made by the party's Supreme Council meeting during its meeting on Aug 27.

He said for several branch leaders, most of them, were ordinary members from Selangor, Negeri Sembilan and Perak.

He said except for two members whose cases would be reviewed by the committee on the suggestion of the Supreme Council, the rest were expected to receive their notice soon.

"We hope the decision will act as a deterrent to others and protect the party's interest and unity," Dato' Mohamed Rahmat told reporters after opening the Johor Baru Umno division annual meeting here.

He said the affected members had already been issued show-cause letters by the disciplinary committee in May this year to explain why action should not be taken against them.

He said the committee headed by party deputy president Ghafar Baba, had made the recommendations after thoroughly studying their explanations.

Dato' Mohamad Rahmat said the committee had also received complaints against some 100 members in Kelantan and Penang for allegedly breaching the party's regulations in the recent State by-elections.

He said they were alleged to have worked against the party and plotted for the Barisan Nasional's downfall in the state by-elections in Limbongan and Sungai Pinang in Kelantan and Prai in Penang.

Except for the Prai State seat, which was won by the State MIC chairman V. Muthusamy, both of Umno candidates lost in the Kelantan by elections.

In his speech earlier, Dato' Mohamed Rahmat urged Umno leaders and members in Johor to patch up their differences and work closely for the benefit of the party.

He said Umno members in Johor should forget the past and concentrate on rebuilding its image as one of the party's strongholds in the country.

"We should not drag our feet over the past differences but must now work closely to enable Johor Umno regain the high esteem it once held.

"All members should put party solidarity above their personnel interests for the benefit of the Malays in the country and Johor, in particular," he said to the applause of the Johor Baru members, including its division chief Dato' Shahrir Abdul Samad.

13/9/1991 (NST, 14/9/1991)

PARIT RAJA, Fri.- Umno Youth will hold a gathering in Kuching in support of Barisan Nasional component parties just before the Sarawak State elections.

Umno Youth Chief Dato' Seri Najib Tun Razak said about 5,000 people were expected to attend the gathering, including delegates from Peninsula Malaysia.

Dato' Seri Najib said, however, Umno Youth did not intend to become too prominent in the campaign which will be led by local BN component parties.

"We only want to help BN win the election. There is no attention of usurping the position of local youth movement there," he told reporters after opening Umno Youth Sri Gading division meeting here.

Dato' Seri Najib, who is the Defence Minister, said he was confident the BN would put a good showing in the election and retain a two-third majority.

"A two third majority will not only strengthen the position of BN in Sarawak, but also ensure that the BN will be stronger in the whole country," he said.

16/9/1991 (NST, 17/9/1991)

KOTA KINABALU: Former Sabah Culture, Youth and Sports Minister Nahalan Haji Damsal today resigned from Parti Bersatu Sabah (PBS) and joined Umno.

I am making this move in the interest of the unity of the people in Sabah.....Umno is the backbone of the Barisan Nasional Government which must be supported by the people," he said at a Press conference here.

Encik Nahalan also announced that he would be withdrawing an election petition challenging the election petition of Haji Pitting Mohamad Ali as Sekong State Assemblyman last year's State election.

He said he had instructed his lawyers to withdraw the petition when the case comes up for hearing in the High Court on Monday.

"Withdrawing the petition has nothing to do with my decision to join Umno today....it is just a coincidence," he said.

In the State election, Encik Nahalan, the PBS candidate, was defeated by Usno's Haji Pitting. Claiming that several election offences were committed, the former Minister filed the election petition.

Encik Nahalan, 36, said joining Umno was the only way to unite the people of Sabah and it was time for the people to get out from the State's political wilderness.

"I also want tolerant politic of unity in the BN," he said.

18/9/1991 (NST, 19/9/1991)

KUCHING, Wed.- The Persatuan Rakyat Malaysia Sarawak (PERMAS) today pledged to bring Umno into the State in a bid to unite one umbrella, party publicity chief Wan Zainal Abidin Wan Sanusi said today.

The party felt this was necessary because of what he claimed to be prevalent disparity in development and disunity among the various Bumiputera communities in the State.

Unveiling the party's 12-point manifesto **Save the Bumiputeras of Sarawak** here today, Wan Zainal Abidin said Permas proposed this to Umno Secretary-general Dato' Mohamed Rahmat on Aug 29.

He claimed Dato' Mohamed had indicated his support for it.

"But our proposal was not supported by certain leaders in the State Government, who prefer to cling on to power themselves," he added.

19/9/1991 (NST, 20/9/1991)

KOTA BARU: Kelantan Umno will sue the Pas-led Government and its information secretariat for publishing an article in its official bulletin alleging that eight Government officers, including a Pengkalan Chepa Umno leader, had attempted to bribe voters during the Sungai Pinang by-election.

State Umno liaison Secretary Haji Ahmad Shahabudin Mohamad Nor said today the article, published in the August edition of the State's official bulletin was **"defamatory and full of false allegations."**

"The articles was not only full of lies, it was mischievously of portraying Umno as a party that indulges in corruption.

"The articles also smeared the good name of Government officers as it stated that those who were caught were from the Biro Tatanegara (BTN).

"Apart from the BTN, the articles also allegedly that Kelemas (Community Development) officers were involved in the bribery."

State Umno legal adviser Mohamed Apandi Ali is preparing the papers and is expected to file the suit next week.

22/9/1991 (BUSINESS TIMES, 23/9/1991)

Deputy Prime Minister Ghafar Baba is confident the Barisan Nasional will come to power in Sabah in the next state election.

Hard work and discipline among party members will ensure victory for Umno in Sabah, he said in a speech at the opening of Labuan Umno Divisions's annual general meeting in Labuan yesterday. His speech was

read out by his Deputy Minister in the Prime Minister Department Datuk Sulaiman Mohamed. - BERNAMA

23/9/1991 (NST, 24/9/1991)

KOTA BARU: The Pasir Puteh Umno division has passed a resolution strongly denying all allegation by party Secretary-general Dato' Mohamad Rahmat that certain members in the division had sabotaged the BN candidate in the Limbongan by-election on Aug 24.

The division will send a delegation to meet Umno president Dato' Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad to explain the matter.

The resolution proposed by the division's deputy chief Daud Yusoff received unanimous support from the delegates at the division's meeting on Saturday.

The division claimed that Dato' Mohamed Rahmat, in making the allegation, received information from the "enemy of Umno" who wanted to see the Pasir Puteh division split.

The resolution was proposed following Dato' Mohamed's statement on Sept 14 saying he had received reports that Umno members from various levels had been involved in sabotaging the BN's bid to win the Limbongan and Sungai Pinang by-elections on Aug 24.

Dato' Mohamad Rahmat, speaking at the opening of the Rantau Panjang Umno division delegates meeting, said he had the names of Umno members from the two divisions allegedly involved in the sabotages and would forward the names to the Umno supreme council.

In the Aug 24 State by-elections, BN candidates Haji Nordin Salleh (Sungai Pinang) and Haji Wan Mohamad Najib (Limbongan) lost by 1,994 and 1,560 votes respectively to Semangat 46 candidates.

Encik Daud said Dato' Mohamad Rahmat should have discussed the issue with the division's chief, Haji Jelani Jaafar, who was the director of the Limbongan by-election committee.

The division will support any disciplinary action by the party against those allegedly involved if its investigations show that there were activities the division was not aware of.

"But the names of the culprits and informers must be given to us," he said.

27/9/1991 (NST, 28/9/1991)

PONTIAN, Fri.- A number of Umno divisions have acted against the party's constitution by dissolving branches and expelling members, Umno Deputy President Ghafar Baba said today.

He said the actions taken by these divisions were illegal and could pose a threat to the well-being of the party.

Under the Umno constitution, the dissolution of branches and expulsion of members are the prerogative of the party's supreme council, he added.

Encik Ghafar, who is also the Deputy Prime Minister, declined to identify the divisions or state the number involved.

The matter had been discussed by the party management committee which had issued stern warnings to the guilty divisions, he said.

"We do not want a repeat of what happened in 1987 when Umno was de-registered as a result of divisions not sticking to the rules," he said after opening the delegates meeting of the Umno Pontian division here.

He hoped that the divisions would avoid making these mistakes in future.

27/9/1991 (STAR, 28/9/1991)

JOHOR BARU: Fifty-seven members of the Semangat 46 Tebrau division submitted their applications to rejoin Umno yesterday.

The group, led by division committee member Yusof Abdullah, handed their forms to Umno vice-president Dato' Seri Sanusi Junid.

Dato' Seri Sanusi said Umno had shown its capabilities to unite the Malays.

"Umno allows its members to contest for all posts but they have accept whoever is elected," he added.

28/9/1991 (NST, 29/9/1991)

SUNGAI PETANI, Sat.- Umno vice-president Dato' Seri Anwar Ibrahim today rapped Semangat 46 and Pas for their narrow-minded criticisms of Vision 2020 and urged Umno members to consolidate efforts to dismiss the "lies" spread by the position.

Dato' Seri Anwar, who is Finance Minister, said the criticism made by the opposition leaders reflected their lack of concern towards the future of the Malays and the nation.

"Pas are claiming that the Prime Minister's vision was unIslamic while Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah (Semangat 46 president) said there was no need to plan for the nation's future," he said.

Dato' Seri Anwar said that sort of criticism from the opposition were expected because when they were in Government, they were the selfish lots who were only concerned about their self interest.

He advised Umno members not to be influenced by the opposition criticisms.

Speaking at the opening of the Sungai Petani Umno delegates' meeting here, Dato' Seri Anwar explained that Vision 2020 was aimed at making Malaysia a developed nation to reach as achieved by Japan and Hong Kong.

He added that to achieve the targets, the Government would not neglect moral development, ensuring political stability, upholding democracy and maintaining an open, liberal and progressive society.

Dato' Seri Anwar said Umno members must strive from now to realize the vision.

"We have to plan from now if we want to be a developed nation and all Umno members must gear up all efforts towards this end."

Dato' Seri Anwar said Umno would play a significant role to achieve the targets and the members must ensure that the party was clean from malpractices.

"The members must have great awareness that they have to work hard for the future of the people and nation."

2/10/1991 (NST, 2/10/1991)

PENANG, Wed.- All eleven Umno divisions in the State have held their meetings last month and a total of 106 delegates will be attending the Umno General Assembly in Kuala Lumpur in November, State Umno liaison committee deputy chairman Dr Ibrahim Saad said yesterday.

He said that each division, except for two, would be sending 10 delegates to the General Assembly. The Bukit Bendera and Tanjung Umno divisions will send eight delegates each.

He said the State liaison committee had also settled all problems relating to the branch annual general meetings (AGM).

The Kampung Perlis branch (Jelutong division) meetings had earlier been declared illegal and barred from sending delegates to their respective divisional delegates' meetings.

The problems have however been resolved and Dr Ibrahim said he was happy with the outcome.

"The State party leadership pays extra care to the way these meetings are conducted as we do not want the 1987 incident to recur."

6/10/1991 (NST, 7/10/1991)

MALACCA, Sun.- The 1992 Budget to be tabled in Parliament on Nov 1 will contain new strategies to improve the management of government agencies and curb the "free spending" habit of some officials, Finance Minister Dato' Seri Anwar Ibrahim said today.

"This may not be a popular move but if necessary I shall expose (the bad practices) to Umno members and seek their backing. If I do not get their support, I will quit," he said when opening the Malacca Umno economic convention here.

Some agencies are headed by officials who spend too freely as if the financial allocations are meant for their own use.

"They consider it as their privilege and have scant regard for responsibility. We will face a disaster if this is not checked."

He did not specify the agencies which were his target, saying to reporters later that his reminder was made "in general".

Asked whether the lavishness and free-spending had become too widespread, he said there were signs to indicate negligence not only among management heads but also among politicians entrusted with responsibilities.

The Finance Minister also hit out at those who criticized the New Development Policy (NDP) as having deviated from the spirit of the New Economic Policy (1970-1990).

"Maybe there are differences between the two programmes but that is just because the New Economic Policy was based on situations in the 70s. The challenges were different then."

The NDP strategies are far-sighted. "For instance, in the coming Budget, allocations towards rural development will be even more than ever before."

One shortcoming of the NEP was that it failed to produce really dynamic and successful Bumiputera entrepreneurs.

"Now we have set up the National Entrepreneurs Development Corporation (PUNB) to meet the new challenges."

He described the PUNB set-up as unique as it is a bank, finance company and training centre all rolled into one.

"We are appointing a chief executive (for PUNB) and if he fails, he will have to go. But I am confident our objectives can be met."

He also said the people had to adopt a new challenges of making Malaysia a fully developed country in 30 years as contained in Vision 2020.

"Vision 2020 is not a mere slogan. There must be a new spirit, vigour and inner struggle of conscience or we will remain where we are."

Today's convention, organized by the Malacca Umno liaison committee, drew about 500 participants.

6/10/1991 (NST, 7/10/1991)

MALACCA, Sun.- Bumiputera entrepreneurs must venture into untried areas like the service industry, Deputy Minister Haji Abdul Ghani Othman.

He said there industry accounted for about 70 per cent of the cost of Malaysian-made product sold anywhere in the world.

"The manufacturing cost of the product is only 3 per cent if levied on consumers by those in the service industry," he said before tabling a paper titled **"The role of development funds in helping Bumiputeras entrepreneurs"** at the Malacca Umno Convention 1991 here.

He suggested that Bumiputeras venture into other non-traditional avenues like power and telecommunications, electronics and assembling of personal computers.

"Bumiputera should also take part in the tool and die or the foundry industry."

In the last 20 years, 11,137 agencies had been created by the Government to help Bumiputera entrepreneurs but he felt a constant **"intervention"** in the running of Bumiputera enterprises would not bring much good.

The Government has decided to promote the undertakings of two groups of people, primarily Bumiputera businessman who flourished owing to Government's help in the 1970s and those who faltered owing to the economic recession in mid-1980s and the professional who have acquired experience.

"If both groups can be pooled, we will have the strength to develop the economy of the people."

The **"umbrella system"** successfully tried out by Guthrie Furniture Sdn Bhd, which has acquired a \$75 million contract from the

Government to supply furniture, will be continued with other companies to enable Bumiputera-owned small-scale industries to participate in the nation's growth.

Permodalan Nasional Berhad (PNB) Chief Executive Dato' Khalid Ibrahim, one of the panel members at the convention, said at least 20 companies in the PBB stable were undergoing a "shake-down" to improve their performance.

"Some of the companies have no definite objectives and were not active while others are experiencing a lot of interventions."

Dato' Khalid also said PNB has formed a "Skunk Group" to undertake "house cleaning" drives at companies which were not performing well.

"Reporting them to the Anti-Corruption Agency does not often get the desired results quickly so we have to send in the Skunk Group which will clean up the company's act quickly."

Another panel member, Permodalan Usahawan Nasional Berhad executive director Raja Dato' Aman Ahmad, advised would be entrepreneurs to get employment in certain companies to garner experience which could help them.

During question time, Alor Gajah Umno delegate Dato' Abdul Razak Alias urged the government to explain the kampong folk the various aids given by the Government.

6/10/1991 (NST, 7/10/1991)

MALACCA, Sun.- Agriculture Minister Dato' Seri Sanusi Junid today called for more forwards-thinking among Malays in order to meet the challenges of the Vision 2020 strategy.

He said Malays must cope with renewed approaches by learning from history and religion, making advances in science and technology and bettering their socio-economic lot.

"If we feel that we have made a wrong turn along the way, we must not be ashamed to stop and correct ourselves," he said in his paper on **The Political and Economic Approaches in Vision 2020** presented at the State Umno convention here today.

In a speech spiced with hilarious anecdotes, Dato' Seri Sanusi said life would not be the same during the next century.

"Will Umno still be widely supported by Malays then? Will we still be ruled by constitutional monarch?" he asked.

He said Malays, especially in Umno, should also be bolder by speaking their minds. "We must hear out views, otherwise we cannot progress."

Dato' Seri Sanusi also said Malays should not be paranoid by the **"30 per cent syndrome"** acquired from the objectives of the New Economy Policy.

"Many of us howl at the idea that the 30 per cent target was not met at within the targeted 20-years period.

"But we must remember that 30 per cent is only a statistic."

Tenaga Nasional Bhd chairman Tan Sri Ani Arope in a panel discussions which followed, said Malays must eliminate suspicion among themselves.

He also underlined the need for Malaysians to master at least another language.

6/10/1991 (NST, 7/10/1991)

MALACCA, Sun.- The progress of a country should not be measured in terms of its per capita income alone, Chief Minister Tan Sri Abdul Rahim Tambi Chik said.

He said the values and practical aspects of life being adopted were equally important to determine how far the country had developed.

Opening the State Umno convention here today, he said it was important to chart a balanced development plan in efforts to make a success of Vision 2020.

"Political stability and communal harmony also provide a strong basis in ensuring the target is achieved."

Tan Sri Rahim expressed support for plans to increase the number of non-Chinese at the Tunku Abdul Rahman College.

The plan was announced by the college's chairman Dato' Seri Ling Liong Sik following the suggestion by Prime Minister Dato' Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad at the college's convocation in Kuala Lumpur yesterday.

On the water problems, Tan Sri Rahim said he considered this as a challenge for the State Government.

"We (the Government) were resilient in facing the hardship and have almost succeeded in overcoming the problem."

11/10/1991 (STAR, 12/10/1991)

KUALA LUMPUR: Dato' Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad has urged Umno leaders to understand the true concept of democracy to ensure that the party remained strong.

The party president said Umno would suffer each time there was party election if the principles of democracy were not understood as the losers would either leave the party or refuse to support the new leaders.

"We need the support of the entire party to preserve the unity of the party," he said at the Umno Kota Baru Division's Unity Night here.

He said there was a split in the party as there were certain groups who did not understand the true meaning of democracy and who even went to the extent of taking the party to court as they did not want to accept the wishes of party members.

Dr Mahathir, who is Kelantan Umno's liaison chief, reminded party leaders not to look upon their posts as personal privileges to the extent of refusing to accept the leadership of others.

On the Umno Supreme Council elections scheduled for 1993, he said contests could be held provided unity within the post-election line-up of leaders remained strong.

The Prime Minister said he was aware that certain leaders had already begun campaigning, in employing ghost-writer to run down other leaders.

He said party members should also study the reasons why the party lost in Kelantan in the last general elections.

He regretted the defeats and blamed them on certain groups in the party who were selfish and refused to support the party's candidates. -
Bernama

11/10/1991 (NST, 12/10/1991)

PASIR MAS, Fri.- Former Semangat Youth chief Haji Ibrahim Ali lost in his bid for the post when the majority of delegates voted for former chief Haji Hassan Ismail.

The division which had been suspended since 1989, was today revived, and saw a straight fight for the division chief post between the two. Haji Hassan emerged victorious after collecting 147 of the total 209 votes cast.

Haji Ibrahim Ali only managed 57 votes and there were five spoilt votes.

The delegates' meeting, held at Sekolah Menengah Ibrahim near here today, was opened by Perlis Mentri Besar Dr Abdul Hamid Pawan Teh.

The Pasir Mas division is the only Umno division to have an election for division's posts while other are scheduled to have theirs next year.

The division was suspended in 1989 following intense campaigning filled with internal bickering and since then had been placed under the protem.

Prior to the suspension, Haji Hassan who is also the former State Assemblyman for Pengkalan Pasir was the division chief.

In today's contest, there were three nominations for the division chief's post but one nominee, Tengku Iskandar Tengku Ahmad made a last minute withdrawal.

Tengku Iskandar was also nominated for the deputy chief and vice-chairman's posts but he withdrew from all.

For the deputy chief's post, former candidate Haji Ismail Che Mat was returned unopposed following Tengku Iskandar's withdrawal.

The vice-chairman's post was a three-cornered fight between Haji Abdullah Abdul Rahman, Haji Hashim Hamzah and Haji Wan Zain Ismail.

Haji Hashim won, collecting 92 votes while Haji Abdullah and Haji Wan Zain received 86 and 19 votes respectively.

Haji Ibrahim said he accepted the defeat and pledged to give his support to Haji Hassan.

"I contested because it is democratic and Umno is a democratic party. But since the delegates decided to vote Haji Hassan, I have to accept their decision and will give my best to ensure that the Pasir Mas Umno division strive for the better under Haji Hassan's leadership," he added.

Haji Hassan said his first priority would be to ensure that his supporters and Haji Ibrahim's closed ranks and worked together towards the division's well-being.

"Our objective will be to ensure that Umno returns to power in Kelantan," he added.

12/10/1991 (STAR, 13/10/1991)

KUALA LUMPUR: All Umno divisional election, except for those in Sabah, scheduled for next year have been postponed to 1993, Dato' Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said yesterday.

The Prime Minister said the Umno Supreme Council, which met yesterday, decided on this prevent any long-drawn politicking until the Council elections in 1993.

Branch level elections for the party were held last year.

The decision to hold divisional and Council elections in the same year was also to strengthen Umno and prevent members from pursuing individual gains and neglecting party interests, Dr Mahathir said after chairing a Council meeting here.

On the election of the Wanita Umno and Youth heads, he said the party's constitutions would be amended at a next month's general assembly to provide for this.

At present, there is no election for the two posts.

However, elections for the two posts would only be held a year after the amendments, Dr Mahathir said.

He also said party deputy president Ghafar Baba would succeed former deputy president Dato' Musa Hitam as one of four trustees of Umno's assets.

Umno Secretary-general Dato' Mohamad Rahmat would succeed former Secretary-general Dato' Seri Sanusi Junid as trustee.

The other two trustees are Dr Mahathir and part treasurer Tun Daim Zainudin.

The new appointment would also enable Umno to secure new assets and claim its olds ones, the Prime Minister explained.

Dr Mahathir said next month's general assembly would debate only two motions, unlike previous assemblies.

This was to enable more than one member of a delegation from every state to take part in the debate.

One of the motions would be to thank the party president for his policy address and other would be on the economy.

Points related to education and Islam could be included in the motion of thanks, said the Prime Minister.

The motion on the economy would centre on the Vision 2020.

On his policy address, Dr Mahathir said it would touch on various topics including the previous assemblies.

The Supreme Council, which met for about two-and-half hours, also accepted applications from four Semangat 46 members to rejoin Umno.

They are Selangor Semangat liaison committee member Dato' Mohamad Abdul Majid, Merbok division deputy head Mohamad Johari Abidin, Selayang division member Ali Ampiran and Kelantan Semangat member Wan Mohamad Wan Bakar.

The Prime Minister also announced the Government would organize the Third Bumiputera Economic Congress in collaboration with the Malay Chamber of Commerce and Industry in December. - Bernama.

14/10/1991 (NST, 15/10/1991)

PASIR MAS, Mon.- Incumbent Pasir Mas Umno Youth chief Hanafi Mamat beat businessman Haji Fauzi Mohamad for the post at the division's youth delegates' meeting yesterday.

Encik Hanafi, who held the post when the division was placed under a pro-tem committee obtained 234 votes against 47 votes garnered by Haji Fauzi.

The deputy youth post was won by Wan Adnan Wan Harun who collected 215 votes, beating Encik Mohd Fauzi Awang, who got 59 votes.

Twelve committee members were also elected. They are Azman Ramli, Aziz Harun, Roslan Ibrahim, Yahya Hassan, Jamaludin Yusoff, Wan Shamsudin Wan Ismail, Adib Ibrahim, Mohd Abduh Abdul Hamid, Wan Zainudin Wan Islami, Zulkifli Hussien, Nik Omar Dollah and Amir Rahim.

Meanwhile, Senator Hajjah Rogayah Cik Mat and Hajjah Wan Khadijah Hussien were returned unopposed for the division's Wanita chief and deputy posts respectively.

Puan Rahmah Ismail and Aishah Awang Chik were two new faces elected to the 12-members Wanita committee.

The others are Hajah Hasnah Awang, Rohani Awang, Hajah Rahimah Yusof, Che Jah Wang Kechik, Hajah Cik Bidah Abdullah, Hajah Safiah Awang Besar, Salehah Hassan, Zawiah Salleh, Ramlah Che Ngah and

Nariman Said. The meeting at Sekolah Menengah Ibrahim (Satu) here was opened by State Youth chief Encik Kamarudin Jaafar.

14/10/1991 (NST, 15/10/1991)

KANGAR, Mon.- The Umno supreme council has ruled that last Friday's Pasir Mas Umno division delegates' conference and election of committee members was valid.

Umno supreme council Dr Abdul Hamid Pawanteh today said the supreme council was satisfied that there were no irregularities during the conference.

The supreme council had discussed the matter at its meeting on Saturday, he told a news conference.

Dr Hamid, who is also the State Umno chief, had opened the delegates conference.

It was reported that on Saturday, an official protest was submitted to the supreme council urging an investigation to ascertain the conference's validity.

Police reports were also lodged by to party members alleging discrepancies.

14/10/1991 (STAR, 15/10/1991)

KOTA KINABALU: The Federal Government will fulfil its constitution obligation to develop Sabah, Deputy Prime Minister Abdul Ghafar Baba said.

As per the Constitution, he said, the Government must provide the state government with funds for education, health, security and electricity.

"Today, I give the assurance that the Federal Government under the BN will meet all its obligations under the Constitution," he said yesterday at the opening of a \$500,000 mosque at Kampung Kawang in Papar, about 30km from here.

Encik Ghafar, the Sabah Umno chief, told reporters at the airport that 11 observers from each division in the state would attend the Umno general assembly in Kuala Lumpur next month.

He also met the liaison committee members last night.

14/10/1991 (STAR, 15/10/1991)

KUALA LUMPUR: Umno Youth has set up a working committee to gather information on the administration of Mara in the wake of the controversy over the appointment of Mara's director-general.

The five-member panel, headed by the movements vice-chief, Encik Nazri Yeop, will also gather feedback to determine Mara's capability in discharging its functions, particularly in extending aid to Bumiputras.

"The committee's ask is to get a true picture on the matter and it is not an investigative body with a specific purpose," Umno Youth chief Dato' Seri Mohamed Najib Tun Razak told press conference after a three-hour Umno Youth Exco yesterday.

He said the committee, which would submit its findings to the Umno Youth Exco, would meet various levels of the Mara management, Public Minister Dato' Dr Yusof Nor and Mara chairman Tamrin Ghafar.

Last week Encik Tamrin announced the appointment of Public Enterprises Ministry deputy Secretary-general to replace Haji Mohamad Ridzuan Abdul Halim.

The Public Services Department subsequently said the appointment was avoid because it did not follow procedures.

He said yesterday's meeting also decided on the setting up of a management committee to study the running and administration of Umno youth.

The committee was empowered to take immediately measures to resolve any problem, he added.

Two sub-committees on resolutions and speech for next month's Umno general assembly were also set up.

The resolutions sub-committee is headed by Encik Nazri and the other by Dato' Seri Najib. - Bernama

15/10/1991 (STAR, 16/10/1991)

KOTA KINABALU: Deputy Prime Minister Abdul Ghafar Baba urged Sabahans to "save Sabah" by abandoning undemocratic PBS leaders whom he accused of destroying the state-federal "bridge".

He hoped PBS members and supporters would rebuild the "bridge" by joining Barisan Nasional component parties.

The Umno deputy president said they could become members of either Umno, Akar, LDP or MCA in the BN and secure a bright future for their children through development and more job opportunities.

He told about 2,000 peoples when opening a civics course organized by the Kimanis Umno division in Kuala Penyu, 150km from here, that leaders in other states worked with the Federal Government to attract investors but in Sabah the state leaders were more interested in visiting Australia.

In the past one year, he said, Chief Minister Joseph Pairin Kitingan had met the Prime Minister only once.

Encik Ghafar said investors would shy away from a state which did not have good relations with the Federal Government.

"They know that PBS is now not on good terms with the BN. The people will have to save Sabah and make sure that the bridge is rebuilt through BN," he said.

Encik Ghafar said that of the the BN administration came to power in Sabah in the next elections, it would ensure that every area logged by the PBS government would be replanted.

"It is our responsibility to make sure that our natural resources are used meaningfully," he said.

20/10/1991 (NST. 21/10/1991)

IPOH, Sun.- About 100 families affected by the sinkhole problem at the Seri Ampang **kampung tersusun**" (planned village) are taking their case to the Umno Supreme Council.

A spokesman for the residents said they were "**disgusted**" with the State authorities' attitude towards their plight.

He said: "They seem to have taken the matter lightly although our homes have been destroyed or swallowed by the sink-holes.

"The owners are feeling the pinch badly as they still have repay the housing loan they took to build the houses and to rent a house elsewhere."

The sinkholes which appeared in the area on Aug 5 last year hogged newspaper headlines after they caused two houses to collapse and another to be badly damaged.

The spokesman said Tambun MP Dr Nawawi Mat Awin visited the village recently to interview the residents and get a first-hand view of the situation there.

"We told him to bring our plight to the Umno Supreme Council in Kuala Lumpur and he has promised to do that," he said.

22/10/1991 (STAR, 23/10/1991)

KUALA LUMPUR: There is no need for another Deputy Prime Minister's post, Information Minister Dato' Mohamed Rahmat said yesterday.

The partnership between Prime Minister Dato' Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad and his deputy Abdul Ghafar Baba was working very well, he added.

Dato' Mohamed, who is Umno Secretary-general, said there was also no need for Encik Ghafar to resign as rumoured by certain quarters, saying that Encik Ghafar had performed well.

On the three-day Umno general assembly starting on Nov 8, he said the debates would focus on the presidential address and economic issues.

There would also be resolutions on the Prime Minister's Vision 2020 to turn Malaysia in a developed country.

Umno was inviting the Liberal Democratic Party of Japan and the African National Congress to attend the opening ceremony, he said.

On the disqualification of former Culture, Youth and Sports Minister Dato' Mokhtar Hashim as a delegates to the assembly, Dato' Mohamed said Dato' Mokhtar did not get a full pardon as reported in the press.

He said Dato' Mokhtar only obtained remission of sentences and his under criminal record still stood.

Under the Societies Act, he said, a person with a criminal record was barred from holding any position in nay organization for five years.

Dato' Mohamed said the Negeri Sembilan Umno liaison committee had advised the Tampin division to hold another meeting.

23/10/1991 (NST, 24/10/1991)

NIBONG TEBAL, Wed.- The local Umno division has written to the Chief Minister Dr Koh Tsu Koon protesting against the proposed pesticide manufacturing factory at Sungai Duri, 15 km from here.

Similar notes were also submitted to Deputy Chief Minister Dr Ibrahim Saad and State Local Government and Village Development Committee chairman Dr Goh Cheng Teik.

Umno division chief Dato' Haji Ahmad Salleh said today the factory would be constructed too near residential areas and is bound to affect several thousand Sungai Duri.

24/10/1991 (NST, 25/10/1991)

IPOH, Thurs.- The Kuala Slim Umno branch in Silm River passed a resolution of no confidence against Tanjung Malim MP and Deputy Finance Minister Dato' Loke Yuen Yow at an extraordinary meeting held on Monday.

In a statement distributed to reporters covering the State Assembly proceedings today, the branch claimed Dato' Loke had not visited Kampung Kuala Slim for four years even during the last general election although invitations were sent to him.

The branch claimed Dato' Loke was **"proud and careless"** in carrying out his duties and responsibilities especially to his voters in the traditional Malay villages.

It claimed the MP had received more votes from the Malays than non-Malays.

The statement also said Dato' Loke had not presented himself at his BN office in Tanjung Malim except during the general election.

The branch was also unhappy that he had appointed Encik Omar Mat Arof as his representative in Tanjung Malim when the letter was busy in his capacity as the Slim River Kemas senior supervisor.

A total of 165 out of the 222 branch members attended the meeting.

24/10/1991 (NST, 25/10/1991)

DESARU, Thurs.- Umno members were urged today to be dynamic, innovative and progressive in their approach to meet the challenges ahead.

Johor Umno chief Tan Sri Haji Muhyiddin Yassin said the Government would ensure that the machinery at all levels was geared towards this objectives.

He said in line with the Malaysia Incorporated spirit, the State Government would continue to work with the private sector so that every one was involved in achieving this aspiration.

The Mentri Besar said this in a keynotes address at the two-day State Umno convention at a hotel here.

The convention, attended by heads of all 18 Umno divisions, was opened by Deputy president Encik Ghafar Baba.

Tan Sri Muhyiddin said the state government would continue to ensure that the administrative system and management was effective and efficient.

"So far I am quite satisfied with the contribution of civil servants who have been showing commitment in carrying out policies adopted by the Government," he said.

He was also happy that the financial situation of the State was strong, adding that revenue for the past three years had gone up to more than \$300 million a year at the first time.

"The accumulated deficit amounting to \$195 million in 1989 was erased this year. Similarly, 80 per cent of the \$203 million owed to the Federal Government has been repaid and the remaining amount will be settled this year," he said.

He said the encouraging situation was achieved through positive steps taken by the State Government to increase its revenue which included cost-saving and the introduction of the privatisation projects.

"State revenue is expected to go up within the next few years and the \$160 billion deposited with the Trustee Funds Board this year is expected to double in a couple years," he said.

26/10/1991 (NST, 27/10/1991)

JOHOR BARU, Sat.- The Pulau Batu Putih ownership tussle between Malaysia and Singapore should not be dragged to the International Court of Justice as the republic has no strong ground to justify its claim.

Johor Baru Umno division chairman Dato' Shahrir Abdul Samad said the ownership of the island which the Singaporean referred to as Pedra Branca, "is not something to be disputed".

"It is not a border disagreement. It is about an island which in Malaysian waters," he said.

Speaking to reporters before a forum on *Pulau Batu Putih - Between Reality and History*, organized by the Umno division's education bureau here last night, Dato' Shahrir said that it was "rather far-fetched" for Singapore to claim that the island belonged to them.

"The island is too far from the republic for them to claim ownership. If it is closer to them, perhaps their claim may have some basis."

About 200 people, mostly Umno members, attended the three-hour forum.

26/10/1991 (NST, 27/10/1991)

KUALA KANGSAR, Sat.- Deputy Prime Minister Ghafar Baba today praised the country's education system, saying that it was comparable to those of developed nations such as Japan and Britain.

He then drew attention to the inability of some Third World countries to provides even primary education for their people.

"But we have good schools and facilities at all levels of education. We are also sending a lot of students overseas for training.

"The lion's share of the annual budget goes to education every year," he said at the centenary celebrations of the Sekolah Kebangsaan Lubok Merbau here.

Encik Ghafar said the Government was paying attention to racial unity.

He added that during the pre-Merdeka days, the various races were divided by the colonial masters.

The Deputy Prime Minister later opened an electricity supply project at Kampong Beng near Lenggong, Grik.

In his speech, he called on the Malays continue supporting Umno as it was the only party that could bring progress and development.

2/11/1991 (NST, 3/11/1991)

KOTA BARU: Ex-Semangat 46 leaders here are organising a special meeting for their supporters and individuals at the Mara Auditorium next Tuesday.

Former Semangat State secretary Kassim Ahmad said at least 1,000 people would attend the gathering at 2 pm and would be opened by Umno secretary-general Dato' Mohamed Rahmat.

He said several speakers have been invited to deliver their *ceramah* at the meeting including Pasir Mas MP and former Semangat youth chief Haji Ibrahim Ali.

Encik Kassim said the speakers would also touch on the latest political development in the State and there would also be a closed-door meeting between Semangat members and Dato' Mohamed Rahmat.

He added the meeting, aimed at fostering unity among Malays in Kelantan, would also highlight the failures of their Angkatan Perpaduan Ummah (APU) State Government.

2/11/1991 (NST, 3/11/1991)

KUALA LUMPUR: Sabah Umno will send 220 delegates and divisional leaders to next week's Umno general assembly for the first time, Prime Minister Dato' Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today.

Dr Mahathir, who is also Umno president, said the party was not able to pay for their expenses for attending the assembly because of their large number, so these members would foot their own bills.

He was speaking at a Press conference at PWTC with divisional leaders as a run-up to the assembly.

Also present were party deputy president Ghafar Baba, supreme council members and Mentris Besar of various States.

Asked on the unease felt by some over the entry of non-Muslim members from Sabah, Dr Mahathir said that the party already had non-Muslim members such as those of Thai origin who are members of Kedah Umno.

"Their presence will not be a problem because our Constitution allows Bumiputeras other than Malays to be members.

"They support all Umno policies, including Umno and Islam, even though they may be not be Muslims."

Sabah Umno, which has 20 divisions, was formed earlier this year after the dissolution of Usno.

Dr Mahathir, who expressed satisfaction with preparations so far for the assembly, said the Constitution would be amended to provide for the election of the Youth and Wanita chiefs.

At present there are no elections for these posts. The elections for these posts are expected to take place only in 1993.

All divisional elections (except for those in Sabah) are also scheduled for 1993.

This year's three-day general assembly begins on Friday. Unlike previous assembly, only two motions will be debated. This is to able more than one member of a delegation from every State to take part in the debate.

One motion is to thank the party president for his policy address, in economy, will centre on Vision 2020.

3/11/1991 (STAR, 4/11/1991)

KLANG: About 120 Umno Youth and Wanita secretaries from various branches in the Kuala Selangor division attended a management course at Kem Bina Semangat in Pantai Remis near here yesterday.

The one-day course was opened by Umno supreme council member and Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs Minister Dato' Abu Hassan Omar.

In his speech, Dato' Abu Hassan said the role played by secretaries from branch to division levels to ensure the success of the party should not be underestimated.

"Secretaries, who are appointed by the branch or division chairmen, indirectly have the mandate of party members who has elected the chairmen.

"They must, therefore, perform their work well and work closely with their chairmen to overcome whatever problems within the branches," he said.

The course was aimed to sharpening the management skills of the branch secretaries and increasing their knowledge in the party affairs.

Umno Kuala Selangor division information chief Ishak Harun presented a *ceramah* on the party's preparation towards Vision 2020.

He said the success of the vision depended on the support and the co-operation of the *rakyat* and the ability of Umno leaders in solving national problems.

The participants were later given certificates of attendances.

5/11/1991 (STAR, 6/11/1991)

JOHOR BARU: The Johor Umno will ask the party committees in the other states to support its claim on Pulau Batu Puteh.

Information Chief Haji Mohamed Aziz had decided to make the islands, which is also claimed by Singapore, a national issue.

"We have decided to push the state's right on the island at the Umno general assembly and ask other state party committees to support us.

"We are making this a national issue because the island is also part of Malaysia," he said.

Haji Mohamed, who has been appointed Johor representative to speak at the assembly tomorrow, said the island's disputed sovereignty would be among the issues to be highlighted by the division.

6/11/1991 (STAR, 7/11/1991)

KUALA LUMPUR: Umno president Dato' Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad is expected to call for greater party unity at the three-day general assembly beginning on Friday.

Dr Mahathir is also likely to urge delegates to reduce politicking and to place party loyalty above personal interests to help strengthen the party.

Party officials said the call would be in line with the party leadership's move to check unhealthy competition for positions.

Umno secretary-general Dato' Mohamed Rahmat said Umno must remain strong if the vision 2020 objective to turn Malaysia into a developed country was to be achieved.

One move the party leadership has taken to prevent any long-drawn politicking is to postpone the party's divisional elections until 1993 although branch elections were held last year.

Dato' Mohamed told a press conference yesterday that the decision to postpone the divisional elections had helped reduce politicking and tension.

"Some (leaders) are disappointed, no doubt. May be they have spent a lot of money preparing for the elections. Now they have to look for more money," he quipped.

However, he said the decision had been generally well received, adding that there would be "no excitement" at the coming general assembly.

"As the Prime Minister had said, it will be a very honourable and peaceful assembly. There will be no harsh words and there will be many laughs," he added.

Dato' Mohamed said 1,516 delegates from 32 divisions and 231 observers were expected to attend the assembly.

For the first time in the party's history, 220 observers from 20 divisions in Sabah would also be present.

The assembly will be proceeded by the party's Youth and Wanita assemblies, which began today.

Dato' Mohamed said the annual general meetings of its over 10,000 branches had gone smoothly with all the instructions from party headquarters well carried out.

Dato' Mohamed said Dr Mahathir would devote a large part of his speech on Vision 2020.

He said the party leadership had chosen the slogan *Umno Dukong 2020* (Umno support 2020) as the assemblies theme.

"Several resolutions on the Vision 2020 would be tabled as well," he said.

Dato' Mohamed also said an extraordinary meeting would be held on Friday afternoon to amend the party constitution.

Among the amendments would be enable elections for the Youth and Wanita chairmen and vice-chairmen's posts.

The delegates are also expected to pass a proposal allowing membership applicants to rejected or misplaced at the branch and divisional levels.

Dato' Mohamed said another proposed amendment would be allow the president to appoint up to 10 supreme council members instead of the present seven.

6/11/1991 (STAR, 7/11/1991)

KUALA LUMPUR: Dato' Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad wants a stop to politicking among members of the financially-troubled Koperasi Usaha Bersatu Bhd to improve its position.

The Prime Minister said although the co-operative was set up by Umno, it had members from the opposition.

He said they should refrain from bickering and should concentrate on business matters to ensure that the co-operative was financially sound.

He said the KUB was willing to accept those who were not from Umno "because the KUB is no longer exclusively from Umno members."

Dr Mahathir added that the co-operative now had Chinese and Indian members, stressing that the important factor was to work for profits.

He was speaking at the launching of a KUB membership drive and the co-operative's new logo at the PWTC.

6/11/1991 (STAR, 7/11/1991)

KUALA LUMPUR: Semangat 46 deputy president Dato' Rais Yatim has informed the Umno leadership that he no longer has any link with the opposition party, Umno secretary-general Dato' Mohamed Rahmat said today.

Dato' Mohamed said he received a letter from Dato' Rais, claiming a split from Semangat.

"He (Dato' Rais) said he wanted to concentrate on business," Dato' Mohamed told newsmen at a briefing on the three day Umno assembly which starts tomorrow.

Dato' Mohamed, who described Dato' Rais as a "good friend", said he had been keeping in close contact with the former Jelebu MP.

He said Umno was trying to get Dato' Rais back, adding that many Semangat members had expressed interests in returning to the fold.

Dato' Mohamed said many former Semangat leaders, such as Selangor chief Dato' Harun Idris and vice-president Hajjah Marina Yusuf, had quit.

"Many have disappeared from the political scene," he said, adding that "others had requested for invitations to attend the Umno general assembly as observers."

Semangat information chief Dato' Zainal Abidin Zin said Dato' Rais was still a party member.

"As far as I am concerned, he is still deputy president, but has been given leave to study for his PhD in London," he said.

Dato' Zainal urged Dato' Mohamed to produce the letter said to be written by Dato' Rais to substantiate his claim.

8/11/1991 (NST, 9/11/1991)

KUALA LUMPUR: Dato' Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, in a reminder to Umno members which was also directed at all Malaysians, said corruption in whatever form must stop and that a new culture based on strong discipline, efficiency and sincerity must be developed.

Addressing Umno's annual general assembly here today, the party president also told Malay and Bumiputera businessmen to cease believing that profits in commerce and industry could only be obtained through deceit, adding that quick profits did not last.

"Easy come, easy go," Dr Mahathir told a large gathering of delegates, observers and guests in the packed Tun Hussien Onn Hall of the PWTC, the venue for all Umno assemblies in the past several years.

Dispensing his own brand of straight-talking wisdom and philosophy based on rational thinking on issues such as power and responsibility, Islam for development, the National Development Policy (NDP), the challenges towards the 21st century, Vision 2020 and Umno's responsibility, Dr Mahathir was very much in his element as he delivered his speech over one hour and 15 minutes.

Interspersed with applause and shouts of approval from the floor, the Prime Minister took his audience to the early days of Islam, its arrival to this country, the situation in this country before independence, the argument concerning Vision 2020 and shared his views regarding the challenges the nation faced as it approached the 21st century.

Dr Mahathir said: "Just because the individual is a Malay or is a Bumiputera does not guarantee that he is going to get whatever he wants. On the other hand, if the individual shows good qualities, is trustworthy, efficient and is often successful, the Government will increase the opportunities according to his ability even though there may be allegations of favouritism.

"Those selected and favoured are those who can implement successfully the objectives of the NDP...not Bumiputeras who waste national wealth."

He threw a challenge to Bumiputera business community, saying that those whose transactions were confined to Government contracts alone were not genuine businessmen.

"If they are truly efficient, their test would be their abilities to penetrate the open market," he said.

The Prime Minister then refuted attempts by certain quarters to discredit the objectives set out under Vision 2020. They had said that the policy would distract Muslims from preparing for the hereafter.

"Once again, attempts are being made to weaken the spirit of the Malays through misleading and baseless interpretations of Islam, with a trace of political motive."

Dr Mahathir drew the crowd's biggest cheer when concluding his speech on the responsibility of Umno and its members. After telling the members to equip themselves with knowledge, efficiency, wealth and resilience before undertaking their task of helping to create a new breed of Malaysians to withstand future challenges, the Prime Minister said:

"We have no time for ridiculous interpretations of Islam. We have no time to be involved in seeking positions for ourselves. We need not ask who is about to replace whom. We have no need for cliques and teams. We need not waste our time with numerous predictions."

10/11/1992 (BUSINESS TIMES, 11/11/1992)

Royal "excesses" dominate Umno meet discussions

For the second year running the question of constitutional monarchy as provided for in the Malaysian Constitution dominated attention of delegates and observers attending the Umno General Assembly over the weekend. Delegates taking part in the resolution thanking Dato' Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad for his presidential address seem to take the cue from the policy

speech to vent their frustrations against what is perceived to be blatant involvement of the rulers and the royal households of the various Malay states in politics, administration and business.

One after another the delegates came up to the rostrum giving their views on the subject. Once considered as taboo and talked about only in private, it is now quite openly discussed even among observers mingling in the corridors of the Dewan Merdeka of PWTC where the assembly was held. Quite a number of the delegates thus did make blunt references to the excesses of the palaces and nobles in a language no longer couched in euphemism and imagery.

One outcome of the debate was the presentation of an impromptu resolution brought up by the Selangor delegation which basically calls upon the Umno Supreme Council to take the necessary steps to ensure that rulers and the istana will refrain from being involved in government administration, politics and economy. Not content with that the delegation also calls for the setting up of a committee to investigate and compile a list of all properties, land and projects given out to the rulers directly and indirectly or through third parties. Since it was not an official resolution put up with appropriate notice, it was not voted upon.

Interestingly all the Umno state liaison chief, who are also menteri besar of eight Malay states, excluding Kelantan which is controlled by Pas, conferred among themselves and decided to support the Selangor resolution. The caucus, with the Menteri Besar of Terengganu, Tan Sri Wan Mokhtar Ahmad, acting as spokesman pledged support all the Umno state liaison committees for whether steps to be taken by the Umno Supreme Council over the issue. It is common knowledge that practically all mentris besar are under great stress and pressure in their dealings with the istanas.

The issue over the role, responsibility and limitations of the Malay rulers and the istana was first debated last year through a resolution tabled by the Penang Jelutong division. Following its adoption, Dato' Seri Dr Mahathir as Umno president and Prime Minister brought the matter up to the rulers at one of the rulers' council meeting. That the issue has again become a matter for wide discussions with even more vigour may be

perceived as an indication that nothing much has changed. In the fact perception is that there is more involvement of the istanas in matters which are not within their purview.

There is also the notion that the royalties are now even more involved in business. Even those not previously involved are said to have also joined a bandwagon. More and more royal offsprings and the nobles around the istanas are also taking advantage of the situation by applying for licenses and bidding for government contracts which has resulted in unfair competition for ordinary Bumiputeras.

So despite the institution being one of the five entrenched provisions of the Constitution subject to the Sedition Act, discussion on these matter are now coming out to the open. But are discussions on excesses of the royalty and the royal households prohibited by the Act? Shouldn't there be checks and balances to ensure that there will be no abuse? Would questioning involvement of the istana in matters outside their purview be deemed as sensitive under the Act? Would suggesting a debate on the civil list of the rulers be deemed as undermining the constitutional monarchy as an institution as provided for in the Malaysia Constitution and the constitutions of the various Malay states?

The debate and discussions at the assembly is a good development and hopefully it will bring about soul-searching by the rulers that will result in the curtailment of excesses by the royal households thereby placing the institution again on the pedestal where it rightly belongs as provided for by the Malaysian Constitution and the constitutions of the various Malay states. Such discussions are not to undermine or question the monarchy as an institution. For in the end it will not be good for the rulers and the istanas if the excesses continue unabated with the rulers not knowing their actions are frowned upon. As a revered institution the Malays look upon the royal families with a certain level of decorum and this has to be reciprocated. - By Rejal Arbee

11/11/1991 (STAR, 12/11/1991)

MALACCA: The Jasin Umno division has shortlisted six local leaders as potential candidates for the Serkam by-election next month.

The names of the six have been submitted to Chief Minister and state Umno liaison chairman Tan Sri Abdul Rahim Tamby Chik.

"We will pick a candidate who will be best suited to serve the needs of the constituency," Tan Sri Rahim said.

He said the state Barisan Nasional would meet today to activate the party's election machinery:

"The Malacca Umno leadership will discuss the by election with the Jasin Umno division tomorrow to finalise the list of potential candidates," he added.

The late assemblyman, Haji Ariffin Haji Baba, who died on Nov 1, was an information officer before he contested the Serkam seat in 1986.

He retained the seat with a 4,867 majority in the 1990 general election.

Tan Sri Rahim, who is also Barisan Nasional chief, said he had appointed Speaker Dato' Abu Zahar Haji Isnin as the party's operations director for the by-election.

12/11/1991 (NST, 13/11/1991)

Radio and Television Malaysia (RTM) provided extensive coverage during the recent Umno general assembly proceedings as the latter was beneficial to the public besides having a significant impact on them, Information Ministry Parliamentary Secretary Dato' Haji Fauzi Abdul Rahman said.

This was consistent with RTM's policy of disseminating information affecting the general public, he added.

He said the Information Department had extended the use of its facilities to political leaders in election campaigns because of their position as Government leaders.

He said the department machinery was also used to inform and encourage the public exercise their right to vote during the elections.

Dato' Fauzi was replying to supplementary questions by Encik Mohamad Sabu (Pas-Nilam Puri) and Encik Shukri Haji Mohamad (S46-Kok Lanas).

Encik Mohamad had asked whether the use of the department machinery an abuse of power.

Replying to the original question by Encik Ibrahim Mustafa (BN-Sungai Petani), Dato' Fauzi said the committee set up to check possible misuse of power of the departments and agencies under the Ministry has not completed its investigations.

Dato' Fauzi said the committee is also been entrusted with the tasks of improving weaknesses in work procedures and system.

12/11/1991 (STAR, 13/11/1991)

KUALA LUMPUR: The Semangat 46 supreme council has expressed disappointment over the "strong and harsh words" used on the rulers at the Umno general assembly, its information chief Dato' Zainal Abidin Zain said.

"We cannot accept the rationale that the words used were to advice the rulers," he said in a statement yesterday.

"If there are any weaknesses among the rulers this is not the way to resolve them."

He said it was not the way of the Malay to use such language on the rulers in public. It was worse when they were broadcast on TV and the press.

12/11/1991 (NST, 13/11/1991)

Prime Minister Dato' Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad and Umno played a very important role in helping the Barisan Nasional to a convincing win in the recent Sarawak State elections, Encik Wahab Suhaili (BN-Batang Sadong) told the Dewan Rakyat.

The MP from Sarawak denied that certain Umno leaders and members had helped the Parti Bansa Dayak Sarawak which contested as an opposition party in the state election. The PBDS is a member of the Barisan Nasional at national-level.

Encik Wahab said Dr Mahathir had rightly stated after the election which saw the PBDS will only seven seats that the people Sarawak had rejected racial and communal politics.

Debating the budget proposals, he alleged that the PBDS had played on racial issues and had told the people to accept money from BN but vote in a Dayak party.

He said the BN leadership must be serious in its efforts to stop such racial and communal politics which will retard efforts to make the country's Vision 2020 a reality.

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12/11/1991 (STAR, 13/11/1991)

SHAH ALAM: The memorandum on the alleged abuse of power by rulers submitted by Umno Selangor at the party's recent general assembly has not strained the ties between the palace and the state, Menteri Besar Tan Sri Muhammad Haji Muhammad Taib said yesterday.

He said the relationship was still normal.

"We hope the royal house will not repeat the mistake.

"We urged the people who are using the palace for their own interests to stop such actions," he told reporters after receiving a memorandum supporting the party's stand on the issue from Selangor Umno Youth chief Idris Abu Bakar at his office here.

"I believe the royal house understands our wish."

Tan Sri Muhammad said there were no plans to have a special meeting to explain the issue to the palace.

He said the contents of the memorandum submitted by the Youth owing would be discussed by the Umno Selangor liaison committee soon.

Tan Sri Muhammad also said that Umno Selangor would hold a gathering on Nov 30 to welcome about 500 Semangat 46 leaders and members who will be rejoining Umno.

Later, Encik Idris said that the Umno Youth had proposed that all Umno divisions should hold special meetings to explain the issue concerning the royal house to the members.

14/11/1991 (NST, 15/11/1991)

KUALA LUMPUR: Resolutions passed at the recent Umno general assembly will be forwarded to the party's Supreme Council for further action, Deputy Prime Minister and Umno deputy president Ghafar Baba said today.

Speaking to reporters at Parliament House here, he said the Umno Supreme Council would meet at a date to be fixed later.

The general assembly, which ended on Sunday, passed two resolutions on the economy and the Presidential address. - Bernama.

14/11/1991 (STAR, 15/11/1991)

MALACCA: An education officer, three teachers, a retired teacher and a manager have been shortlisted by Malacca Umno as potential candidates for the Serkam by-election.

It is learnt that the six being considered by the party are Jasin district assistant education director and Serkam Umno branch chairman Haji Salleh Ali, 53, teachers Haji Ramli Hadi, 50, Atan Aziz and Osman Idrus, retired teacher Haji Ishak Abdul, 56, and estate manager Kapt (Retd) Ahmad Hamzah, 43.

Sources said the names were submitted to Chief Minister and state Barisan Nasional chief Tan Sri Abdul Rahim Tamby Chik on Wednesday.

All six are locals with good grassroots support in the constituency.

The seat fell vacant following the death of assemblyman Haji Ariffin Baba, 53, on Nov 1.

The Election Commission has fixed Dec 4 as nomination day, and Dec 14 for polling.

Pas, which has traditionally contested the Serkam seat, is likely to pick either Kampung Serkam's imam, Haji Mohamed Said Omar, 56, or religious teacher Haji Alaudin Haji Wahid, 52.

However, Pas leaders interviewed conceded that it would not be much in contest.

In the 1990 general election, Haji Ariffin polled 7,617 votes against Pas candidate Haji Salleh Ayob's 2,750.

15/11/1991 (NST, 16/11/1991)

KOTA BARU: Former Semangat 46 Youth leader Haji Ibrahim Ali has hit out at Pas and Semangat 46 leaders for politicising the debate on loyalty at the recent Umno general assembly.

Haji Ibrahim, who is also Pasir Mas Member of Parliament, said Semangat leaders, including Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah, hoped to stir the people's anger against Umno.

Speaking at the thanksgiving gathering at former Sungai Pinang State Assemblyman Haji Nordin Salleh's residence, he said Umno would continue to uphold the nation's monarchy system.

He also hit out at the State Government for making a mockery of the legal system.

He said while the State Government pledged to respect the court ruling on the validity of the amendment to the State constitution concerning the removal of any elected representative for quitting the party is failed to reinstated the two sacked assemblymen.

Haji Nordin and former Limbongan State Assemblyman Haji Wan Najib Wan Mohamad were removed from their seats by the State Assembly following the amendment to the constitution.

16/11/1991 (NST, 17/11/1991)

KUALA LANGAT: Selangor Umno liaison chief Tan Sri Muhammad Haji Muhammad Taib today dispelled rumours that the Malay unity gathering scheduled for Nov 30 would be a show of protest against the Selangor royalty.

He said claims that the State Umno leaders would be gauging support from party members on the palace issue at the gathering was unfounded.

"The gathering is to welcome back more than 500 former Semangat 46 leaders and members who rejoined Umno," he told reporters after launching the Viewers, Listeners and Readers Group (K3P) at Kampung Kanchong Darat.

Tan Sri Muhammad, who is also the Menteri Besar, said the gathering would have nothing to do with the resolutions made by the State Umno Youth wing that supports the resolutions of the recent Umno General Assembly, which among other things, proposed a review on the role of Sultans in the appointment of Mentri Besar and Exco members.

He urged the public not to jump conclusion on what the State Umno liaison committee would be doing to avoid misinterpretation.

The gathering, which is to be held at 3pm at the Silver Jubilee Hall in Shah Alam is expected to draw more than 5,000 people.

16/11/1991 (NST, 17/11/1991)

JAKARTA: Umno and the Indonesian ruling party, Golkar, have agreed to step up cooperation in Malaysia-Indonesia relations, Information Minister Dato' Mohamed Rahmat said.

Good relations between the two countries should always be cultivated because there were parties out to cause a rift between them, he told Malaysia journalists at an Umno-Golkar function here last night.

The function, organised by Umno, was attended by Golkar leaders and delegation of 136 Umno divisional leaders who are on a week-long visit to Indonesia starting last Tuesday.

Dato' Mohamed, who is also Umno secretary-general, said he had discussed with Golkar leaders the activities that could be held to promote interaction between members of the two parties.

Malaysia wanted to see Indonesia continue to develop and progress, he said, adding that Indonesia's political stability and economic development would have a bearing on the political stability and economic growth of Malaysia.

17/11/1991 (STAR, 18/11/1991)

MALACCA: Based on records, Serkam is such a sound Barisan Nasional stronghold that a contest by Pas or Semangat 46 in the coming by-election would seem futile.

But many in the constituency, including Umno members, are hoping for a contest rather than see Barisan win unopposed come nomination day on Dec 4.

The excitement of getting more development projects are being wooed by top political leaders is already in the air.

In the coffee-shops and street stalls of Merlimau, Serkam, Tedong and Umbai, talk is on the coming *durian runtuh* (windfall) in the form of development projects and exposure for the constituency's famous *ikan bakar* (grilled fish).

The rural coastal constituency - from Teluk Mas to Merlimau and encompassing the islands of Besar, Serimbun and Dodol - has 13,631 voters, 82 per cent of whom are Malay, 13.2 percent Chinese and the rest Indian.

"We have the basic facilities like school, rural clinics and roads," said Encik Mohamad Jani Dol, 72, an Umno veteran, who was once the party branch chairman and district council member.

"But what is wrong, if we expect more to make our lives better?"

Since the death of Barisan Nasional assemblyman Haji Ariffin Baba on Nov 1, Pas leaders have raised only one issue - that the two fish statues at the entrance of Serkam's *ikan bakar* centre are "idolatry" and "haram" (forbidden).

Umno leaders and Serkam's Village Development and Security Committee and Security Committee (JKKK), however, say the statues were to guide visitors to the grilled fish centre.

State speaker and Jasin Umno division chief Dato' Abu Zahar Haji Isnin, who is Barisan's director of operation for the by-election, said if Pas contested, it would ride the religion bandwagon.

He also expects Pas to harp on the water crisis which affected Malacca at the beginning and middle of the year.

"On both these issues, we are confident of beating them," he said.

Dato' Abu Zahar said Umno would hold 200 *ceramahs* on development and Islamic values.

17/11/1991 (STAR, 18/11/1991)

BATU PAHAT: A high-level Umno delegation will seek an audience with the Yang di-Pertuan Agong Sultan Azlan Shah soon to present its views on alleged palace interference in government administration.

Umno secretary-general Dato' Mohamed Rahmat said yesterday the delegation would also request the King to convey the views of Umno on the matter to the other rulers.

He said that some rulers had asked Umno for copies on videotapes on the debate over the status and role of the palace during the recent Umno general assembly.

"I have given the whole tape to them," he told newsmen after opening the Johor Javanese Association annual general meeting in Parit Raja near here.

Umno, he said, was firm units stand to protect the monarchy constitutional monarchy system.

18/11/1991 (NST, 19/11/1991)

DUNGUN: Menteri Besar Tan Sri Haji Wan Mokhtar Ahmad has expressed regret at the Kelantan State Assembly for allowing two newly-elected Semangat 46 Assemblymen to be sworn in yesterday despite a restraining order issued by the Kuala Lumpur High Court.

He said the action clearly showed the ignorance on the part of the Assembly, adding that it was tantamount to contempt of court.

"It is clear that when two interested parties are involved in a disputes, a third party is needed to solve the matter. In the case, the court, as the third party, has made its decision but has apparently been ignored by the State Assembly," he said.

Speaking to reporters after opening a \$35,000 community hall at Kampung Pak Sabah yesterday, he urged the public to remain calm and leave the matter to the court.

Haji Mahmud Yaakub for Sungai Pinang and Haji Samat Mamat for Limbongan were sworn in before Speakers Haji Omar Mohamed about 10.40 am when the State Assembly convened its five-day meeting yesterday.

The restraining order, sought by the former Assemblymen for the two constituencies, Haji Nordin Salleh (Sungai Pinang) and Haji Wan Mohamed Najib Wan Mohamed (Limbongan), was granted yesterday morning by Mr Justice Mohamed Eusoff Chin after a hearing in chambers.

It restrains Haji Mahmud and Haji Samat from taking part in any State Assembly dealing until further order by the court. They have 14 days to set aside the injunction.

On the police reports lodged by three Semangat 46 members against Selangor Menteri Besar Tan Sri Muhammad and his political secretary for allegedly making a seditious remarks against the Rulers at the recent Umno general assembly, Tan Sri Haji Wan Mokhtar said: "One must fully understand the genuine intention of voicing such as issue. Umno is not against the monarchy, as an institution, but was only pointing out the shortcomings of some of the Rulers."

He added that the reports made by three Semangat 46 members at the Jalan Bandar police station in Kuala Lumpur a few days ago was merely to "fish in troubled waters".

23/11/1991 (NST, 24/11/1991)

KUALA LUMPUR: Former Semangat 46 supreme council member Dato' Harun Idris and some of his supporters may rejoin Umno if the Malay Unity gathering next Saturday organised by Selangor Umno is magnanimous to former members.

The 66-year-old former Mentri Besar and Umno vice-president said magnanimity must generally prevail in Selangor Umno - from the leadership right down.

He said it would be meaningless if Umno merely accepted Semangat 46 members just to make up the number but prevented them from active participation.

Dato' Harun who received a personal invitation on Nov 14 to attend the gathering in Shah Alam, however, agreed the gathering was a step forwards the cause of Malay unity in the State.

Any initiative to strengthen and stabilise the position of Malay politics, particularly in Selangor, should be welcomed, he told a Press conference at Wisma Dato' Dagang.

Dato' Harun said many of his supporters, including those still in Semangat 46, had expressed their willingness to attend the gathering and get **"re-acquainted with former friends and comrades"**. This feedback is based on an informal meeting on Nov 16 with about 100 supporters.

Dato' Harun said Selangor Menteri Besar Tan Sri Haji Muhammad Taib has in return given an assurance that:

- * The monarchy's alleged interference in Government affairs will not be raised;

- * There will no sudden public announcements of Semangat 46 **"crossovers"** into Umno; and

- * There will be no obstacles or threats to non-Umno members attending the gathering.

Tan Sri Muhammad had earlier announced the gathering would welcome more than 500 former Semangat 46 leaders and members into Umno. He also dismissed rumours against the Selangor royalty.

Dato' Harun, a Semangat 46 founder member who quit earlier this year, said he had an hour-long audience with the Sultan of Selangor yesterday. He explained the reasons he was attending the gathering and assured him it would not discuss the royalty issues.

On rejoining Umno, he said that to allow smoother re-entry of Semangat 46 members into Umno, the party must repeal a constitutional provision which gives 10 votes from divisions to any person nominated for the post of party president and deputy president.

28/11/1991 (STAR, 29/11/1991)

KOTA KINABALU: Umno secretary-general Dato' Mohamed Rahmat said yesterday that he has received complaints from civil servants here that they were being victimised for joining Umno.

The victimisation was in the form of transfers and indiscriminate sacking, he said.

Such action was unwise and inhuman, he told reporters after chairing a meeting of Umno pro-tem divisional heads here.

He said the affected state government officers were from the middle level.

Nevertheless they remained in Umno despite being sacked and "I am salute them for willing to make scarifies for Umno and if such a spirit prevailed, I am confident that Umno's aspiration to return the Barisan Nasional to power in Sabah will be achieved."

Dato' Mohamed, who is Information Minister, also said that traders had complained to him about their difficulties in operating in the state "in view of political instability."

"Investors are not brave enough to invest here for the same reason," he said. - Bernama

29/11/1991 (NST, 30/11/1991)

ALOR STAR: The Kedah Umno will discuss the choice of candidate for the Jerlun by-election with the Jerlun/Langkawi Umno division before submitting its proposals to Umno president Dato' Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

Mentri Besar Tan Sri Haji Osman Aroff said both the State and Jerlun/Langkawi Umno division were still "looking into his matter".

The Barisan Nasional will announce its candidate for Jerlun a day before the nomination which has been fixed for Dec 9.

"We have also not decided whether to make the announcement for our candidate in Jerlun or Alor Star," said the MB after opening at Kemas religious teacher workshop in Kampung Naga in Jitra yesterday.

30/11/1991 (STAR, 1/12/1991)

SHAH ALAM: Former Selangor Semangat 46 chief Dato' Harun Idris announced his return to Umno yesterday.

He said he was going back after four years, without any conditions attached, because it was for the sake of Malay unity.

"I am breaking the ice and I am confident many of my supporters will follow me," said the former Selangor Mentri Besar.

He was speaking to reporters after attending the Umno-organized Selangor Malay unity gathering at the Dewan Jubli Perak here.

More than 5,000 people, including many former Semangat members, packed the hall to give Dato' Harun and other leaders a roaring welcome.

Also present were Semangat Puchong division chairman Haji Mazlan Harun and Ampang Jaya chief Haji Fahmi Ibrahim who had been recently expelled from the Semangat 46 supreme council.

Dato' Harun, 66, was overwhelmed and could not hold back his tears to see the large crowd, which included hundreds of his supporters, at yesterday's gathering.

"We will hold a similar gathering for my official return to Umno with others," he said, adding that he was invited to rejoin Umno by Mentri Besar Tan Sri Haji Muhammad Haji Muhammad Taib.

"Everybody who turned up here today were happy to see our return which aimed at forging unity among the Malays," said Dato' Harun.

He said he and his supporters were not rejoining Umno to fight for positions.

Dato' Harun said his move would encourage many who had left Umno to return to the fold.

He said he had announced his retirement from politics after the general election but now had been wooed by Tan Sri Muhammad to make come back.

"I have never left Umno spiritually....I have always regarded my self as part of the party, but the only thing is that we have had a difference of opinions," he said.

Asked what position he plans to hold in Umno, he said: "I will assist Tan Sri Muhammad.

Dato' Harun declined to comment on the fate of Semangat following his move to rejoin Umno.

Haji Fahmi, a former Selangor state executive councillor, said he had decided to join Umno because he had been expelled from Semangat.

"As a politician, I need a vehicle to ride on," he said, adding that more than 400 Semangat members from his division would join him.

Haji Mazlan, who is the son of Dato' Harun, he said he would return with more than 1,400 of his supporters.

3/12/1991 (STAR, 4/12/1991)

MALACCA: Former Jasin district assistant education officer Haji Salleh Ali has been picked as the Barisan Nasional candidate for the Serkam by-election on Dec 14.

Chief Minister Tan Sri Abdul Rahim Tamby Chik made an announcement at a Barisan Nasional meeting at the Serkam Kemas centre yesterday.

He urged all Umno members, including five others who were shortlisted as potential candidates, to support Haji Salleh.

Nomination will be at the Jasin District Council today.

The seat fell vacant following the death of Umno's Haji Ariffin Baba on Nov 1.

Haji Salleh, 53, said he was confident the people would support his as he served in Serkam for a long time.

"I thank the BN leadership for having faith in me.

"God willing, we will do better than the last general election," he said.

On Pas' influence in the constituency, he said it had waned over the years.

He added that the increase in votes for the Pas candidate during the last general elections was due to Semangat's support.

Haji Salleh is a Jasin Umno division committee member and chairman of the Serkam Umno branch.

A former teacher and headmaster, he is married with eight children, one of whom is a doctor.

Pas has yet to name its candidate, although it has indicated its intention to contest.

6/12/1991 (STAR, 7/12/1991)

KUALA LUMPUR: Semangat 46 supreme council member Haji Sulaiman Palestin, who attended last week's Selangor Umno-organised Malay unity gathering, is no longer active in the party.

Party Secretary-general Dato' Suhaimi Kamarudin said Haji Sulaiman had not been attending supreme council meetings for some time.

"We have not been able to keep in touch with him as we understand he is on medical leave," he told the *Star*.

Dato' Suhaimi said Haji Sulaiman, a former Umno information chief, had been seeking medical treatment.

Party president Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah had, in fact, visited Haji Sulaiman on several occasions, he added.

Dato' Shaimi said Haji Sulaiman could have been listed into attending the gathering as he might to have had **"up-to-date information"** about political developments.

However, he said, Haji Sulaiman was still a supreme council member and had not quit the party.

Dato' Suhaimi said until now, the party had no intention of taking any disciplinary action against Haji Sulaiman who had not expressed any intention of rejoining Umno.

Haji Sulaiman, a former Penang State Assembly Speaker, created much controversy when he broke Umno tradition by challenging the late Tun Hussien Onn for the Umno president in 1978.

Dato' Suhaimi said expelled supreme council members Haji Fami Ibrahim, Haji Mazlan Harun and former Selangor Semangat chief Dato' Harun Idris also attended the gathering at Shah Alam last Saturday.

15/12/1991 (NST. 16/12/1991)

KOTA BARU: The Pas-led Kelantan Government has agreed to make a public apology to Umno through two daily newspapers within a week for publishing a defamatory article against Kelantan Umno leaders.

The State Government also agreed to pay \$8,000 to Pengkalan Chepa Haji Mohd Fathmi Haji Salleh over the articles which appeared in the August issue of *Buletin*, a publication of the state Information Secretariat.

Kelantan Umno legal adviser Apandi Ali said a letter on the State Government's agreement to settle the matter out of court was delivered to his office today.

"The letter, signed by State legal adviser Haji Idris Osman, states that the State Government will apologise to Kelantan Umno through *Utusan Melayu* and *Utusan Malaysia* within seven days.

"The State Government will also publish its apology in the next issue of *Buletin*," said Encik Apandi when contacted today.

The August issue of *Buletin* had reported that eight people, including the Pengkalan Chepa Umno Division Youth chief, were detained at Kampung Sungai Pinang by a group of villagers.

The articles also stated that the eight had \$60,000 in their possession and that they had the intention of "buying votes" for Umno in the Sungai Pinang State by-election on Aug 24.

The State Government, through its legal adviser, agreed to negotiate with Kelantan Umno for an out-of-court settlement.

"Following the negotiations, Kelantan Umno agreed to settle the matter out of court on the Government make a public apology through the daily newspapers and pay compensation to Haji Fahmi," Encik Apandi said.

15/12/1991 (NST, 16/12/1991)

SEREMBAN: It is not obligatory for the country to implement hudud laws if the leaders are still not well-versed in the Islamic jurisprudence, Umno assistance information chief Haji Nakhaie Ahmad said.

He said implementing them was not a priority but that attention should be given to enhancing the quality of the Muslims by improving their religious knowledge so they would not live in ignorance," he said.

"The hudud laws can be implemented when the educational aspect has been attended to," he said.

He was speaking on Malaysia Heading for an Islamic country Status at a seminar on "Umno administration and struggle", organised by the Rasah Umno ad attended by 500 people.

Haji Nakhaie, who was a former Pas vice-president, also said that hudud laws could be implemented on condition that there were enough judges who were knowledgeable in the Islamic jurisprudence.

The reason for this is to avoid a biased judgment or injustice," he said.

He claimed that the Pas-led Kelantan Government had to defer the implementation of the hudud laws in the State due to a lack of competent people to handle the judicial process according to Islam.

"The law cannot be implemented if there are uncertainties and doubts," he said.

He said for a country to become an Islamic state, its leaders and people must have - strong faith (*iman*), mental-strength and systematic work.

Haji Nakhaie said Pas did not have the strength to form an Islamic state compared with Umno.

He said political speeches by Pas leaders were based on their emotions.

"They used a lot of verses from the Quran to tell the people that the party is more Islamic than Umno. But sometimes the verses used are not relevant at all their speeches," he said.

Haji Nakhaie said policies formulated by Umno were more akin to that of an Islamic state.

"The Government has set up Pusat Islam where religious officials study the Quran and come up with ideas that will eventually be adopted as Government policies," he said.

He said although Malaysia was heading for a developed country status, the planning was designed in a way to strike a balanced between economic and spiritual development.

16/12/1991 (NST , 17/12/1991)

AIR HITAM: The Defense Ministry recently rejected a request by the Pas-led Kelantan Government that the Armed Forces participate to commemorate the Japanese occupation of Malaya, Defence Minister Dato' Seri Najib Tun Razak said last night.

He said the Government felt that such an event should not be celebrated because it constituted a bolt in the nation's history.

"The occupation was a black episode in our history. It is therefore illogical for us to celebrate the occasion," he said at an Umno gathering in Kampung Lana Bulu in Kerpan here.

Dato' Seri Najib, who is also the Umno Youth leader, said the Kelantan Government had sent a letter to the Ministry requesting the Armed Forces to take part in the commemoration day on Dec 7.

"The Ministry had to reject such a request the event was a humalitation to the people and nation. We feel that it should not be celebrated at all."

Dato' Seri Najib said the Kelantan Government had asked the Armed Forces to send military aircraft, ships and soldiers to commemorate the event in Kota Baru.

"We could not accept the request and had to turn it down," he added.

Dato' Seri Najib expressed surprised over the decision by the Kelantan Government to hold the commemoration day.

"The State Government should have commemorated the various successes scored by the country and not the episode in our history," he said.

Dato' Seri Najib said the success of the national car Proton Saga in Britain was one of the major events that the Pas-led Government had cause to celebrate.

He also spoke of the failure of the Pas Government to fulfill the general election pledges to the people.

Dato' Seri Najib said the party had made plenty of promises including the \$100 allowance for those above 55.

16/12/1991 (STAR, 17/12/1991)

ALOR STAR: Menteri Besar Tan Sri Haji Osman Aroff said the Barisan Nasional had already taken the "lead" in the run-up to the Jerlun by-election on Thursday .

"Based on feedback compiled from the constituency's 23 ballot posts, the Barisan had surpassed last year's performance.

"The campaign began on 50-50 note, but majority support for us has increased since," he told newsmen after launching an Excellent Work Culture Movement at the Sekolah Menengah Permatang Bonglai in Jerlun.

Tan Sri Osman felt that the state Barisan machinery was at its strongest compared to the Bayu by-election in May and Pantai Merdeka by-election in March last year.

"The opposition has tried its old trick of trying to stir up emotions, but the people are with us," he added.

The Barisan retained the Pantai Merdeka and Bayu state seats against Pas candidates with reduced majorities.

"We are faced with more problems in Bayu but still managed a creditable performance."

(The Barisan's Ahmad Sibi won the Bayu seat on May 4 by 3,592 votes, 2,182 less than the October general election).

Jerlun Umno division secretary Khalid Ahmad met Pas secretary-general Haji Halim Arshad in a straight fight in Jerlun. The latter was defeated by the late Dato' Haji Yusuf Abdul Rahman last year.

Tan Sri Osman also said that the Barisan was investigating claims that Pas had "imported" outsiders to registers as voters in the constituency over the past few general elections.

18/12/1991 (STAR, 19/12/1991)

KUALA LUMPUR: The High court granted yesterday an application by 11 members of the de-registered Umno to discontinue their libel suit against Dato' Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad and six others.

Mr Justice Datuk Anuar Zainal Abidin granted the application and struck out the suit in his chambers against Dr Mahathir, Information Minister Dato' Mohamed Rahmat, The New Strait Times Press (M) Bhd, Star Publications (M) Bhd, Utusan Melayu (M), TV3 and the Registrar of Societies.

Encik Mohamed Nor Othman and 10 others had sued for damages and libel contained in various articles published or broadcast on or around June to September 1988.

They had sought an injunction restraining the defendants from further writing, publishing or transmitting similar libelous statements intended to mislead or deceive the public that Umno and Umno Baru were one and the same organization.

24/12/1991 (NST, 25/12/1991)

KUANTAN: Umno is awaiting a decision on its claim of the old Umno property worth \$1.3 billion now held by the Official Assignee, Umno Secretary-General Dato' Mohamad Rahmat said today.

He said that the claim was submitted to the Official Assignee two weeks ago supported by various facts and proof that a majority of the members of the old Umno had joined the present Umno.

If the Official Assignee was satisfied with the facts and proof, the union claim would be filed in court for a final decision, he told reporters here.

"I hope that Umno will recover possession of the property, whether in Kuala Lumpur or in the States," he added.

This was because Umno had adequate proof to make a claim for the property, he said.

The property was placed under the Official Assignee after the court had decided that the old Umno was unlawful, in 1987.

Dato' Mohamed, who is Information Minister, said that the Ministry had formed a panel chaired by former Foreign Minister Tan Sri Ghazali Shafei to formulate a National Film policy.

24/12/1991 (NST, 25/12/1991)

KUALA LUMPUR: The leader of the 11 former Umno members who took legal action against the party in 1987 said today that the struggle of Semangat 46 was no longer valid following its decision to discontinue its legal suit against the Umno president and Secretary-general.

Encik Abdul Rahim Abdul Rahman also announced that he was quitting the party and re-joining Umno, saying that the decision by Semangat 46 to withdraw the suit was instrumental in his changing his mind.

The 11 had last week discontinued their suit filed in the High Court here more than three years ago against party president Dato' Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, Secretary-general Dato' Mohamad Rahmat, three newspapers, a television station and the Registrar of Societies over the use of the party name.

They were the group who in 1987 filed the suit to declare the Umno general assembly of April 24 that year void, but lost.

Encik Abdul Rahim said the action taken by Semangat 46 legal bureau last Wednesday without informing him meant that the party had

also acknowledge the existence of Umno and the old Umno was one and the same.

That being the case, he said, the party's struggle had ceased to exist and it should even consider changing its name since it could no longer claim to be representing the old Umno as the name suggested.

Encik Abdul Rahim said the withdrawal of the suit, the last pillar of the struggle of Semangat 46 had toppled and its members should start re-assessing their situation.

"Now that even Semangat has acknowledged that Umno is the legitimate party to continue with the struggle of the old party and not itself, I see no reason to remain the party," he told reporters after handling in his membership application form to Umno's Secretary-general Dato' Mohamed Rahmat at the Minister's office today.

Apologising to all Umno leaders and members of the "**havoc**" the group had created, he then expressed the hope his application be accepted by the Umno's supreme council.

He also said that Puan Marina Yusof, a former Umno supreme council member and a key figure in the formation of Semangat 46, was the "**mastermind**" behind the Group of Eleven even though she was never named as a member of the group.

Dato' Mohamed Rahmat, who is the Information Minister, later told reporters, that Encik Abdul Rahim's application would be discussed at the party's supreme council meeting in next 11 Jan next year.

"In fact I am sure his application will be approved since Umno had already decided to accept all Malays into the party," he said.

He said the decision by Semangat 46 to withdraw the suit showed that the party's struggle, which had stretched to resorting to court actions, he failed.

On the Umno's membership, Dato' Mohamed said it had now reached 1.8 million, about 500,000 more than its membership before it was declared illegal.

26/12/1991 (STAR, 27/12/1991)

KOTA KINABALU: Deputy Prime Minister Ghafar Baba held discussions yesterday with 11 Usno assemblymen who have been reported to dissatisfied over the treatment given by Umno headquarters.

The assemblymen were said to have been dissatisfied over Umno's failure to provide funds for the development of their constituencies and there have been press reports stating that they might co-operation with Parti Bersatu Sabah (PBS) to form a state coalition.

Federal Secretary Haji Shamsudin Osman told reporters that Encik Ghafar had instructed them to submit applications for development projects directly to the Federal Government for consideration.

Usno's assemblyman for Banggi Datu Amir Kahar Tun Mustapha said that all problems had been settled.

He said all the Usno assemblymen were satisfied and happy with the discussion. - Bernama

26/12/1991 (NST, 27/12/1991)

KUALA LUMPUR: When the Titiwangsa Wanita Umno division decided to have their Family Fun Fair yesterday, little did they know that their members were a talented bunch.

Representatives from 40 branches of the constituency came up with various activities and contests to reveal their hidden talents.

The women shone in the flower arrangement contest, displaying creations fit for royal dining. They also turned luxurious fabrics into objects d'art with ease in the cloth-folding competition.

According to the Titiwangsa Umno Wanita divisional head Puan Halimah Haji Mohamaed Yunus, the fun fair was aimed at promoting family activities and also to give an opportunity to its members to show off their talents.

Also present was the Sungai Besi Umno divisional head, Senator Rahim Baba who officiated at the event.

28/12/1991 (STAR, 29/12/1991)

KUALA LUMPUR: Umno Youth wants the Thai Government to apologize for the intrusions on Padang Besar while carrying out anti-smuggling raids.

It international affairs bureau vice-chairman, Tengku Datuk Adnan Tengku Mansur, led a delegation to hand over a two-page protest letter to a representative of the Thai Embassy here yesterday.

Umno Youth also wants Bangkok to give an assurance that such intrusions would not occur again.

"The embassy has agreed to convey our message to Bangkok," Tengku Adnan told newsmen after handing the letter to Minister Counsellor Anacha Osathanond.