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UMNO-PRESIDENT R R R R R R R R R R  
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KUALA LUMPUR, APRIL 11<sup>87</sup> (BERNAMA) -- UMNO PRESIDENT DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD WILL BE CHALLENGED BY TRADE AND INDUSTRY MINISTER TENGKU RAZALEIGH HAMZAH IN THE UMNO SUPREME COUNCIL ELECTIONS ON APRIL 24.

TENGKU RAZALEIGH ANNOUNCED HIS DECISION TO ACCEPT NOMINATION TO CHALLENGE FOR THE PARTY PRESIDENCY AT ABOUT 3.30PM AT A CLOSED-DOOR MEETING WITH HIS SUPPORTERS IN PULAU PINANG.

THE FORMER UMNO TREASURER WAS NOMINATED BY 37 DIVISIONS COMPARED WITH 89 FOR THE PRIME MINISTER TO DEFEND THE POST AND HOLD IT FOR A THIRD TERM SINCE 1981.

THIS IS THE SECOND CONTEST FOR THE PARTY'S TOP POST SINCE UMNO'S ESTABLISHMENT IN 1946. THE FIRST WAS IN 1978 WHEN FORMER PARTY INFORMATION CHIEF HAJI SULEIMAN PALESTIN CHALLENGED THE THEN PRESIDENT TUN HUSSEIN ONN.

ALL POSTS IN THE UMNO SUPREME COUNCIL WILL NOW BE CONTESTED IN THE ELECTIONS AT THE PARTY GENERAL ASSEMBLY. -- MORE  
1728MST 11 04 87

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UMNO-PRESIDENT 2 KUALA LUMPUR R R R R R R R R R R

THE CONTEST FOR THE DEPUTY PRESIDENT POST MEANWHILE IS A STRAIGHT FIGHT BETWEEN INCUMBENT DATUK MUSA HITAM AND DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER GHAFAR BABA.

DATUK MUSA WHO IS SEEKING A THIRD TERM RECEIVED 49 NOMINATIONS WHILE ENCIK GHAFAR, AN INCUMBENT VICE-PRESIDENT AND BIDDING FOR THE DEPUTY PRESIDENCY FOR THE FIRST TIME, GOT 76.

THE TWO WERE ALSO NOMINATED FOR THE PRESIDENT AND VICE-PRESIDENT POSTS, JUST LIKE TENGKU RAZALEIGH, WHO, APART FROM BEING NOMINATED FOR THE PRESIDENCY, WAS ALSO NOMINATED FOR THE DEPUTY PRESIDENCY AND A VICE-PRESIDENCY.

TWENTY CANDIDATES WERE NOMINATED FOR THE THREE ELECTIVE VICE-PRESIDENT POSTS OF UMNO.

THE OTHER TWO INCUMBENT VICE-PRESIDENTS, DEFENCE MINISTER DATUK ABDULLAH AHMAD BADAWI AND TERENGGANU MENTERI BESAR DATUK AMAR HAJI WAN MOKHTAR AHMAD WILL DEFEND THEIR POSTS. -- MORE  
1726MST 11 04 87

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UMNO-PRESIDENT 3 KUALA LUMPUR R R R R R R R R R R

DATUK ABDULLAH AHMAD BADAWI WAS THE FIRST INCUMBENT VICE-PRESIDENT TO SUBMIT HIS ACCEPTANCE OF NOMINATION TO DEFEND HIS POST. THE ACCEPTANCE LETTER WAS HANDED OVER TO THE PARTY HEADQUARTERS THREE DAYS AGO.

OTHER CANDIDATES NOMINATED AS VICE-PRESIDENTS WERE FOREIGN AFFAIRS MINISTER DATUK RAIS YATIM, UMNO SECRETARY-GENERAL DATUK SERI SANUSI JUNID, PERAK MENTERI BESAR DATUK SERI RAMLI NGAH TALIB, PAHANG MENTERI BESAR DATUK KHALIL YAAKOB, EDUCATION MINISTER AND UMNO YOUTH CHIEF ANWAR IBRAHIM, FORMER UMNO YOUTH CHIEF DATUK HAJI HARUN IDRIS, NEGERI SEMBILAN MENTERI BESAR DATUK ISA SAMAD, MELAKA CHIEF MINISTER DATUK SERI RAHIM THAMBY CHIK.

FEDERAL TERRITORY MINISTER DATUK ABU HASSAN OMAR, KOK LANAS MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT DATUK ABDULLAH AHMAD, INFORMATION MINISTER TENGKU AHMAD RITHAUDDEEN, FORMER LAND AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT MINISTER DATUK SERI ADIB ADAM, WELFARE SERVICES MINISTER DATUK SHAHRIR SAMAD AND SUPREME COUNCIL MEMBERS PUAN MARINA YUSOF AND DATUK HAJI SUHAIMI KAMARUDDIN. -- BERNAMA  
1739MST 11 04 87