

CNS6083

R PE 30-10 00178 EA730

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Ghafar-post

GHAFAR TENDERS RESIGNATION AS UMNO DEPUTY PRESIDENT

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KUALA LUMPUR, Oct.30 (Bernama) -- Former Deputy Prime Minister Ghafar Baba today tendered his resignation as UMNO Deputy President with effect from Nov.1.

The letter, addressed to party President Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, was submitted to the Prime Minister's Principle Private Secretary Datuk Abdul Aziz Ismail by Ghafar's Special Officer Haji Abdul Rahman Yunus at the Prime Minister's Office at 1.05 pm.

Abdul Rahman told a press conference afterwards that with the resignation Ghafar would not be officiating the opening ceremony of the UMNO Youth and Wanita Assemblies on Nov.3 and he would also not be attending the UMNO General Assembly at the Putra World Trade Centre on Nov.4.

Earlier, at a separate press conference party Secretary General Datuk Mohamed Rahmat announced that the UMNO Youth Assembly would be opened by Youth head Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak and the Wanita Assembly by its leader Datuk Seri Rafidah Aziz. -- more

ROI LDB

▼30/10/15-37MST

CNS6095

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Ghafar-post 2 Kuala Lumpur

Abdul Rahman said he would read Ghafar's resignation to Mohamed today. Ghafar made the decision to relinquish the party post at his house at 11.30 am and he was informed by Ghafar to submit the letter to Dr Mahathir, he added.

He said although Ghafar resigned from his party post, he remained an UMNO member.

Ghafar was elected Deputy President, defeating Datuk Musa Hitam by a 40-vote majority at the party general assembly on April 24, 1987.

Asked about Ghafar's post as the Federal Territory UMNO liaison chief, Abdul Rahman said: "Ghafar might have forgotten to discuss it."

He added that with the resignation Ghafar would take a rest but he did not know whether or not Ghafar would go abroad.

Abdul Rahman also said Ghafar would retain his seat as the MP for Jasin, Melaka. -- more

ROI LDB

▼30/10/15-45MST

CNS6096

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Ghafar-post 3 (last) Kuala Lumpur

Ghafar resigned as Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Rural Development on Oct.15.

On Sept.30, he resigned as head of the Sabah UMNO liaison committee and on Oct.25, he resigned as Barisan Nasion Secretary General.

Ghafar, who was trailing far behind Finance Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim in the contest for the Deputy President's post, withdrew from defending the post on Oct. 21.

Ghafar only got seven nominations compared with the 145 obtained by Anwar.

When reporters asked for a copy of Ghafar's letter, Abdul Rahman said: "There's no need. This letter will become a historical artifact." --

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ROI LDB

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CNS6207

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Ghafar-post 4 (last) Kuala Lumpur (reopen item)

Reporters who went to Ghafar's house in Bangsar this afternoon were unable to meet him.

A family member said he was resting and that he had left word that he did not wish to meet reporters.

It is understood that Ghafar and his family would be leaving on Monday for a holiday in Jakarta. -- Bernama

AZZ LDB

▼30/10/17-43MST