

17 SEP 1996

RAUF JAMALIS APPEALS AGAINST POSSIBLE DISQUALIFICATION

SEPANG, Sept 17 (Bernama) -- A candidate for the post of Umno Youth head Abdul Rauf Jamalis, who is a Division One government officer, has appealed to party headquarters against possible disqualification.

The appeal was forwarded by his representative to the special committee chaired by Umno President Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, he told Bernama today.

Umno Secretary-General Datuk Mohamed Rahmat said yesterday that a candidate for the post of Umno Youth head, in next month's party polls would probably be disqualified because he was still a Division One government officer.

Mohamed did not mention the name of the candidate concerned but out of the six candidates vying for the post, Abdul Rauf, 42, is a Division One Information Officer who had been seconded to the Youth and Sports Ministry.

Division One government officers could not be active in politics or hold any party posts, according to regulations.

Rauf said he was only facing a technical problem and would abide by whatever decision the party made.

He had confirmed his candidacy on Sept 11 before the Sept 14 deadline.

Asked whether he would resign from his government post to contest the party post, he said, "let's wait for the party's decision."

Abdul Rauf entered politics in 1973 and has been an ordinary member of Umno. -- BERNAMA

RAR AAM