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SEVERAL CANDIDATES IN UMNO ELECTION MAY FACE DISQUALIFICATION

KUALA LUMPUR, Sept 13 (Bernama) -- Several candidates vying for posts in the Umno election next month may face disqualification.

Umno secretary general Datuk Mohamed Rahmat indicated this to reporters after sending off Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad at the Sultan Abdul Aziz Shah International Airport today. Dr Mahathir left for Zimbabwe to attend the World Solar Summit in Harare tomorrow.

"We should know by Monday...there may be some disqualifications," he said when asked whether any candidate has withdrawn from the party election.

He however did not elaborate on the matter.

Tomorrow is the deadline for Umno candidates to accept or reject the official offer to contest in the party election after their names were nominated by the Umno divisions.

The party headquarters gave them two weeks from Sept 1 to collect their offer letters and reply within the period, after which an official list of candidates will be put up and they will no longer be allowed to withdraw.

Mohamed recently reminded the candidates that Umno would take stern action including disqualification after Sept 14 if candidates are found to have breached party discipline especially involvement in money politics and campaigning for the election.

The party headquarters is also conducting checks with the Official Assignee's Office to determine that candidates and delegates attending the party's general assembly are not bankrupts.

The party has barred bankrupts from taking part in the assembly.

-- BERNAMA
AFY RM