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Most incumbents retain positions

KUALA LUMPUR, Sun.- The 165 Umno divisions which concluded their annual meetings today, have given a fresh three-year mandate to a vast majority of divisional heads.

Perak, Pahang, and Terengganu saw a 100 per cent success rate for the existing heads.

In Kedah, 11 of 15 divisional leaders won without contest, as was the case with 16 of 20 divisional heads in Sabah.

For Selangor, although there were contests in 14 divisions, only one incumbent was unseated while former Menteri Besar Tan Sri Muhammad Muhammad Taib did not feature in the elections. The incumbent defeated was Datuk Zainal Dahalan (Sabak Bernam).

There were no contests for the top post in any of the 14 divisions in Kelantan.

Some 90 divisional head posts in 154 divisions in Kedah, Perak, Penang, Malacca, Terengganu, Kelantan, Pahang, Perlis, Johor, Negri Sembilan, Selangor and Sabah were not contested.

Nationwide, a vast majority who won unopposed were incumbents, led by party president Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad (Kubang Pasu) and deputy president Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim (Permatang Pauh).

There were also dramatic moments during the three-week polls, like how two contenders for the number two post in Selandar, Malacca, secured 144 votes each. Today, Umno Youth Exco member Kadir Daud was declared the winner. This came after the other contestant, former Alor Gajah MP Ibrahim Jendol did not turn up for the drawing of lots, which had been decided earlier as the solution.

The following is the State-by-State tally.

In Kedah, apart from the 11 who won uncontested, two incumbents defeated their challengers - Datuk Zakaria Said edging Datuk Abu Bakar Rautin Ibrahim in their fifth straight fight in Kuala Kedah, and Datuk Badrudin Amiruldin defeating Datuk Ismail Arshad, 235 votes to 64, in Yan.

For the number two post in Yan, State Exco member Razak Hashim was returned unopposed as deputy head. The vice-head former Senator Shuib Syawal lost to challenger, Fazillah Ali, 113 to 188 votes.

Baling yesterday retained Datuk Raja Ariffin Raja Sulaiman as head. He was unopposed. His deputy, Datuk Zainol Mat Isa who is State Assembly speaker also kept his post. Zainol won against Youth chief, Wahab Din, 275 votes to 147.

Bayu Assemblyman, Ahmad Sibi Ahmad, who was the incumbent vice head, was defeated by Mohd Salleh Yaakob by 228 votes to 185.

Two remaining incumbent heads in Kedah were defeated. They were State Exco member Datuk Paduka Abdul Rahman Ibrahim (Pokok Sena) and Badri Yunus (Merbok). Badri lost to former Youth head, Arzmi Hamid, 156 votes to 225. The incumbent deputy head in Merbok, Mahmud Omar narrowly retained his post by a majority of two, defeating Mej (Rtd) Anwar Hamid, 187 to 185 votes. Suhaimi Razak was elected the vice head.

In Terengganu, all eight divisional chiefs retained their posts. They are Tan Sri Wan Mokhtar Ahmad (Kemaman), Datuk Mohd Yusof Mohd Nor (Besut), Datuk Dr Tengku Mahmud Mansor (Setiu), Datuk Abdul Rashid Ngah (Kuala Nerus), Datuk Abu Bakar Daud (Kuala Terengganu), Datuk Muda Mamat (Marang), Tengku Putera Tengku Awang (Hulu Terengganu) and Datuk Syed Omar Mohamad (Dungun).

Four - Syed Omar, Muda Mamat, Tengku Putera and Bakar Daud - defeated their challengers while others won uncontested.

In Penang, six of the 11 incumbent heads won unopposed, three defeated their challengers, and two lost.

Today, Datuk Dr Hilmi Yahaya (Balik Pulau) defeated his deputy Dr Nungsari Ahmad Radzi, 178 votes to 66. Datuk Mohd Zain Omar was elected as deputy head, and Youth chief Syed Ameruddin Syed Ahmad moved up to become vice-head.

Abdul Rashid Ismail returned to lead the Jelutong division at its meeting today. He polled 93 votes against divisional deputy chief Mat Noor Hussin (83 votes) and incumbent Tajul Arus Nordin who secured 66 votes.

(In 1995, Rashid lost by a single vote to Tajul in a straight fight) Businessman Mohd Ali Ismail and divisional vice-chief Abdullah Sultan won the deputy and vice chairman posts respectively.

Nibong Tebal division chief Datuk Abdul Rashid Abdullah retained his post after he defeated Shafiai Saad, 183 to 30 votes.

The division's deputy chief Mahmud Zakaria returned unopposed when his challenger Datuk Ahmad Salleh withdrew from the contest.

In Kelantan, incumbent heads were retained except in three divisions where there was a change in the leadership as the incumbents did not seek re-election.

The three are Gua Musang MP Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah, Datuk Kamaruddin Jaafar (Tumpat) and Tuan Hashim Tuan Yaacob (Kubang Kerian).

In Johor, 14 of the 19 line-up of divisional heads were incumbents. Today, Senator Ibrahim Daud (Labis) won unopposed following the last minute withdrawal of the incumbent, Datuk Bahari Haron. Senator Ghafar Gurrohu (Kluang); State Exco member Datuk Zainalabidin Mohamad Zin (Batu Pahat); State Exco member Adam Abdul Hamid (Senai) also won.

In Muar, Parit Bakar Assemblyman, Abdul Malik Munip defeated the incumbent divisional head Aziz Yassin.

In Mersing, the incumbent chief, Abdul Rahman Sabri lost to State Culture, Youth and Sports Committee chairman, Dr Abdul Latiff Ahmad, 92 votes to 132.

In Sabah, except for the Gaya Division, all the incumbent divisional heads were either retained unopposed or re-elected when the divisional elections ended today.

Gaya division chief Datuk Hussein Wahid Dally was the only incumbent who failed to retain his post, losing to his deputy Uzair Yahya in a five-cornered fight.

The incumbent divisional chiefs who won unopposed were Datuk Osu Sukam (Papar), Datuk Salleh Tun Said (Kota Belud), Datuk Abdul Ghapur Salleh (Tawau), Datuk Shafie Apdal (Semporna), Datuk Hajiji Noor (Tuaran), Datuk Musa Aman (Libaran), Datuk Surady Kayong (Beluran), Datuk Yahya Lampong (Tanjung Aru), Masrani Parman (Marudu), Saidi Suari (Bandau), Datuk Lajim Ukin (Beaufort), Datuk Sapawi Ahmad (Sipitang), Datuk Kasitah Gadam (Kinabalu), Sairin Karno (Keningau), Rizalman Abdullah (Pensiangan) and Datuk Yusof Amat Jamlee (Silam).

Those who were challenged but successfully retained their posts were Mokhtar Radin (Kinabatangan), Datuk Yahya Hussein (Penampang) and Datuk Ampong Puyon (Sandakan).

In Pahang, all 11 incumbent heads were retained.

Only the Bentong, Mentakab and Kuantan divisions saw contests for the top post to which, the incumbents successfully defended their posts.

Incumbent Bentong Umno chief Datuk Adnan Yaakob defeated Dr Abdul Wahid Ahmad Suhaimi, incumbent Mentakab chief Datuk Bahari Yahya beat his uncle Datuk Abdul Halim Mohd Seth while Datuk Fauzi Abdul Rahman today defeated his deputy Datuk Jamal Nasir Ismail in Kuantan.

The six new faces for the deputy chief posts are political secretary to Menteri Besar Ahmad Tajuddin Sulaiman in Paya Besar, businessman Wan Adnan Wan Mamat (Kuantan), Lipis MP Amir Hamzah Ahmad (Lipis), Maran MP Datuk Mohamad Abdullah (Maran), Mohd Zaini Salleh (Bentong), Pulau Tawar State Assemblyman Azizan Yaakob (Jerantut).

In Perak, all 23 Umno division chiefs kept their posts, including 14 winning uncontested.

Today, Datuk Azman Mahalan retained his post as Tapah divisional head, securing 140 votes to beat Khalil Shah Jamaluddin who only obtained 101 votes.

Azman's deputy, Mansor Mohamad Tahir also kept his post. He polled 149 against Ahmad Badewi, who secured 91 votes.

The incumbent vice head, Abdul Rahman Mahalan secured 33 votes, and lost in the three-cornered fight won by Bahari Yeop who secured 120. The other candidate, Abdul Rahim Hashim, secured 87.

Also, the incumbent head in Teluk Intan, Che Onn Hamzah retained his seat after defeating Datuk Mohd Arshad Abdullah, a former State Assembly speaker, and divisional head.

In Negri Sembilan, Gemenceh State Assemblyman, Datuk Waad Mansor today won the contest for the top post for Tampin, defeating Tampin MP Datuk Mohd Noh Rajab, 239 votes to 89.

Gemas Assemblyman, Datuk Mohd Yassin Bakar also retained his deputy-chief post against Razali Abdullah. Kota Assemblyman, Ahmad Apandi Johan was elected vice head. Yesterday, Shaziman Abd Mansor was voted in as Youth chief.

Overall, other incumbents retained are Menteri Besar Tan Sri Mohamad Isa Abdul Samad (Teluk Kemang), Datuk Abu Zahar Ujang (Kuala Pilah), Datuk Lilah Yassin (Jempol) and Datuk Ishak Ismail (Seremban).

The two defeated incumbent heads in Negri Sembilan were State Speaker Datuk Hamdan Mohamad (Rasah), and State Exco member Datuk Shamsul Bahari Mat (Jelebu).

In Selangor, Datuk Zakariah alias Zainal Md Deros today retained his Klang Umno division chief's post beating challenger Adnan Zakaria in the re-convened delegates' meeting today after the March 15 polls were declared void.

In the Federal Territory, Segambut incumbent head Abu Kassim Tadin, retained his post defeating his deputy Lockman Kimin, 123 to 64 votes today.

The division's treasurer, Kamaruddin Ambok, secured 141 votes to win the contest for vice-head, against Dr Alias Mohamed, 45 votes. Other incumbents who have retained their posts include Datuk Drs Suleiman Mohamed (Titiwangsa) unopposed, Datuk Dr Kamal Saleh (Wangsa Maju), Datuk Kamal Hussein (Lembah Pantai) and Datuk Roslan Ali Omar (Bukit Bintang).

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