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Sabbaruddin-Contest

NEW CONDITIONS PROPOSED FOR UMNO POTENTIAL CANDIDATES

KUALA LUMPUR, Aug 19 (Bernama) -- Umno members might be required to be members for several years before they could contest for party posts, said Umno secretary-general Datuk Sabbaruddin Chik today.

He said this was one of the proposals discussed by the Umno special committee to review and amend party constitution at its meeting chaired by him last night.

Sabbaruddin, who is also Culture, Arts and Tourism Minister, said the proposal was to avoid money politics in the contest for party posts.

"We don't want a person who joined today started buying votes tomorrow just because he has money...we don't want that," he told reporters after opening an exhibition on sports and recreational products, here.

He said another proposal was requiring a potential candidate for a post in the Supreme Council to receive more than two nominations as at present.

Sabbaruddin said these proposals were being studied by the committee.

On the proposal to scrap the 10-bonus vote system in the nomination for the posts of president and deputy president, he said it was to further streamline the party constitution.

He said the bonus vote system was introduced to curb money politics within Umno.

"We want a better system. We can improve it further," he said.

Sabbaruddin also said the ministry had been directed by the Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad to look seriously into the possibility of turning Labuan as a tourist destination of quality.

He said the ministry would look into ways to enhance tourism promotion for Labuan especially to countries like Japan, New Zealand and Australia.

-- BERNAMA

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