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Abu Hassan-Candidates

20-30 PER CENT OF UMNO CANDIDATES IN SELANGOR TO BE NEW FACES

KUALA LUMPUR, Nov 14 (Bernama) -- Selangor Umno liaison chairman Datuk Seri Abu Hassan Omar said today the state Umno will field 20-30 per cent new faces in the general election on Nov 29.

This was because several state assemblymen would not be fielded for health and other reasons, he said.

He said it was normal practice in Umno and Barisan Nasional (BN) to drop incumbents, field new faces and retain the old guard to form a strong government.

"We normally field new candidates to give the young and qualified a chance to serve society...their energy mixed with the experience of the old guard will form a strong team," he told reporters after attending a concert at the "The Children Cottage" kindergarten, here.

Abu Hassan, who is Selangor Menteri Besar, said the list of candidates from all Selangor BN components was ready for submission to BN chairman Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad for consideration.

The list would be announced a day before nomination day on Nov 20, at the latest.

Asked whether he would be contesting a state or parliamentary seat, he said "I leave it to Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, I only follow orders and what is most important now is for me to discharge my duties."

The BN swept all the 17 parliamentary and 45 of the 48 state seats in Selangor in the last general election in 1995.

-- BERNAMA

JAI JK