

05 JUL 1999

Abdullah-Expel

UMNO EXPELS NINE INCLUDING KAMARUDDIN JAAFAR

KUALA LUMPUR, July 5 (Bernama) -- The Umno Supreme Council tonight expelled nine Umno members including Tumpat division chief Datuk Kamaruddin Jaafar for involvement with opposition parties including joining them.

Deputy Prime Minister and Umno vice-president Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said the council also decided to send show-cause letters to six others for being sympathetic with the opposition.

Speaking at a press conference after the council's meeting here, Abdullah who has assumed the duties of the deputy president, said the council also approved the setting up of 11 new branches.

Tonight's meeting was chaired by Prime Minister and Umno president Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

Abdullah, who is also the chairman of the Umno management and disciplinary committee, said Tumpat division secretary Saufi Daud and another member from the division, Mohamad Noor, were among those expelled.

Four others who were expelled are from the Bukit Gantang division in Perak, namely Ismail Yusof, Haji Said Othman, Tarmizi Ismail and Jumri Sabran.

Also expelled are Abdul Wahab Abdullah (Johor Baharu division) and Senator Hamzah Mohd Zain (Tasek Chenderoh division in Perak).

Abdullah said Tumpat division deputy chief Haji Mansor Salleh had been appointed as the division's acting head in place of Kamaruddin who had earlier sought leave from his post.

All six members to be issued show-cause letters are from the Tasik Chenderoh division, namely Ahmad Azam Abdullah, Mohamed Nazam Ismail, Mohamed Aminuddin Mohamed Hashim, Hashim Nawawi, Mohamed Noor Mohd and Mohamed Yatim Mohamad Yusof.

Abdullah said the new branches to be formed include one each in Terengganu, Pulau Pinang and Perak, four in Negeri Sembilan, two in Johor and two more in Sabah.

Asked on the position of former Umno Youth chief Datuk Ahmad Zahid Hamidi, Abdullah said tonight's meeting did not discuss that.

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