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Umno-Batu Berendam/BM

BATU BERENDAM PICKS NAJIB, GHANI, ABU HASSAN FOR UMNO VEEP

MELAKA, March 5 (Bernama) -- The Batu Berendam Umno division, the first in Melaka to hold its delegates meeting, nominated Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad for party president and Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi for deputy president.

For the three vice-president's posts, the division nominated incumbent Datuk Seri Najib Razak, Johor Menteri Besar Datuk Abdul Ghani Othman and Selangor Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Abu Hassan Omar.

The division, headed by Chief Minister Datuk Wira Mohamed Ali Rustam, named him as one of its nominees for the 25 elected Supreme Council posts.

The others include Perlis Menteri Besar Perlis Tan Sri Shahidan Kassim, Kedah Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Syed Razak Syed Zain, Pahang Menteri Besar Datuk Adnan Yaakob, Perak Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Tajol Rosli Ghazali and Pulau Pinang Deputy Chief Minister Datuk Dr Helmi Yahaya.

Also nominated are Datuk Drs Suleiman Mohamad, Datuk Dr Shafie Mohamed Salleh, Datuk Khalid Yunus, Adam Hamid, Datuk Dr Yusof Nor, Datuk Mustapha Mohamad, Tan Sri Kasitah Gadam, Datuk Azmi Khalid, Datuk Abdul Kadir Sheikh Fadzir, Datuk Nazri Aziz, Datuk Anuar Musa, Abdul Azim Zabidi, Tan Sri Sanusi Junid, Datuk Shahrizat Abdul Jalil, Datuk Shafie Apdal, Datuk Dr Affifudin Omar, Datuk Dr Ibrahim Saad, Datuk Seri Megat Junit Megat Ayob and Tan Sri Rahim Tamby Chik.

In his speech at the meeting, Mohamed Ali said the Melaka government had taken steps to reduce the influence of professionals who supported and campaigned for the opposition.

It had dropped architects, legal firms and clinics linked to opposition supporting people from the panel of government departments and agencies, he said.

Mohamed Ali said the state government would also terminate the contracts of officials of the departments and agencies who backed opposition parties.

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