

18 MAR 2000

Mahathir-Umno

DR MAHATHIR QUALIFIES TO CONTEST FOR UMNO PRESIDENCY

KUALA LUMPUR, March 18 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad today qualify to contest the Umno presidency in the party election in May when he received another four nominations.

Four Umno divisions -- Bakri (Johor), Beaufort, Libaran and Tenom (all in Sabah) -- which held their delegates conference nominated him for the post.

Dr Mahathir received 51 nominations from 52 divisions which already held their delegates conference. The Tanah Merah Umno division nominated Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah for the post.

Umno requires those vying for the presidency to have nominations from at least 30 per cent or 50 of the 165 Umno divisions.

Another 26 divisions are scheduled to hold their delegates conference tomorrow.

The four divisions which held their delegates conference today also nominated Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi for the post of deputy president.

Abdullah, who already received 51 nominations, qualified to contest when he received nominations from 20 per cent or 33 of the 165 divisions.

For the post of vice president, all the four divisions nominated Datuk Seri Najib Razak, bringing the number of nominations he has received to 49.

Sabah Chief Minister Datuk Osu Sukam received three nominations from the three divisions in the state, bringing the number of nominations he has received to 15.

Johor Menteri Besar Datuk Abdul Ghani Othman received two nominations, from the Bakri and Beaufort divisions. He now has 31 nominations.

Negeri Sembilan Menteri Besar Tan Sri Mohamed Isa Samad received two nominations, from Bakri and Tenom, bringing the number of nominations he has received to 12.

Foreign Minister Datuk Seri Syed Hamid Albar received one nomination, from Libaran. He now has 12 nominations.

Those vying for the vice presidency need to have nominations from 10 per cent or 17 of the 165 divisions.

-- BERNAMA

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