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Focus on V-P posts at PPP assembly

KUALA LUMPUR, Fri. - The focus of the People's Progressive Party's 47th assembly tomorrow will be on the eight contenders vying for the three vice-presidents posts.

The two-day assembly, scheduled to be opened by the Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, will be held at the Putra World Trade Centre.

Of the eight, incumbents S. Subrayan and P.C. Low and Kedah State chairman V. Nadarajah seem to be the three front-runners.

However, another incumbent A. Ayyathurai, Bukit Bintang division chairman Dr Daniel Chan, Sepang division chairman T. Tulukanan, Klang division chairman Maglin D' Cruz and Seputih division chairman Dr K.S. Tan, are said to be putting up a strong challenge.

Some 32 candidates including three each from PPP's Youth and Wanita wing are contesting for the 25 supreme council seats.

They include Desmond Lee, M. Murthi, Inder Singh (representing PPP Youth) and Jenny Yap and Catherine Tan (representing PPP Wanita).

Party president Datuk M. Kayveas has been returned unopposed for the third term. He was first elected in 1993.

Kayveas, when contacted today, said the contest this time around was very stiff as party members have now realised that they can play a bigger role in the country's development.

"The recognition given by Dr Mahathir to PPP is also a factor for the members to be more dedicated in their commitment," he said.

Some 2,941 delegates and around 2,000 observers are expected to attend the assembly and the election results is expected to be known before 5pm.

Kayveas also said he would appoint a new secretary-general, treasurer-general and information chief tomorrow.

"This is to inject new blood to the party and to give an opportunity to those who have been working hard to serve the party," said Kayveas.

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