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Ku Li five nominations away from joining fray

KUALA LUMPUR, Fri. - Kelantan Umno chief Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah, who has earned 12 nominations, needs only five more to qualify to contest for the post of vice-president in the May 11 party elections.

With 16 divisions yet to hold their meetings, much attention will be given to whether he can finally join in the fray for the party's third highest position.

Since early this month, 149 of the 165 divisions have completed their meetings and all had submitted their nominations.

Today Tengku Razaleigh received five nominations for the vice-presidency, four coming from divisions in his home State.

They are Kota Baru, Kubang Kerian, Machang and Tumpat, all in Kelantan and Kulim/Bandar Baru in Kedah.

Altogether 10 divisions held their delegates' meetings today. The others are Keningau and Kinabalu in Sabah, Dungun in Terengganu and Pengkalan Chepa and Gua Musang in Kelantan.

The delegates of the Gua Musang division, of which Tengku Razaleigh is the chairman, met today and decided not to nominate anyone for all posts. Meanwhile, incumbent Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak received nine nominations today for the vice-presidency.

Johor Umno chief Datuk Abdul Ghani Othman and Sabah Umno chief Datuk Seri Osu Sukam received four each; Selangor Umno chief Datuk Seri Abu Hassan Omar received two while Negri Sembilan Umno chief Tan Sri Mohd Isa Abdul Samad, Jelebu division adviser Datuk Dr Rais Yatim and incumbent Tan Sri Muhammad Muhd Taib received one each.

Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad and Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi were nominated by all the nine divisions which met today for the posts of Umno president and deputy president respectively.

With this, Dr Mahathir has received 148 nominations while Abdullah, 147. Both won the posts uncontested on Sunday and Monday respectively.

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