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LEAVE IT TO UMNO SUPREME COUNCIL, SAYS GHANI

PETALING JAYA, March 14 (Bernama) -- Johor Menteri Besar Datuk Abdul Ghani Othman said he is leaving it to the Umno Supreme Council to determine the allegation that some Umno divisions in Johor were told not to nominate certain leaders for the party elections in May.

"I have no comment. We leave it to what the party president said yesterday," he told reporters after attending a talk here today.

Umno president Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad was yesterday reported to have asked Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin to furnish evidence to the Supreme Council concerning his allegation.

Muhyiddin, the Pagoh Umno division chief, alleged on Sunday that 16 of the 20 Umno divisions in Johor had been directed by "certain parties" not to nominate him for the vice president's post.

Muhyiddin, who is Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs Minister, said the divisions concerned were told to nominate only Abdul Ghani as the sole candidate from Johor for the post.

Apart from Abdul Ghani and Muhyiddin, another candidate from Johor who has offered to contest for a vice president post is Foreign Minister Datuk Seri Syed Hamid Albar.

Syed Hamid is also Johor Umno liaison committee deputy chairman and Kota Tinggi Umno division chief.

-- BERNAMA

SLR THG