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Listing of candidates completed

Patvinder Singh; Sajahan Waheed

KUALA LUMPUR, Sun. - Umno looks all set for the party elections after the listing of candidates for the ballot papers was carried out today.

The names of candidates were picked from a transparent box by members of Umno supreme council's 2000 election committee.

Committee chairman Tan Sri Kamarul Ariffin presided over the meeting held at Dewan Merdeka of the Putra World Trade Centre, the venue of the May 11-13 Umno general assembly.

The deputy chairman is Tan Sri Dr Noordin Sopiee, while its secretary is Datuk Zaki Tun Azmi. Other members are Tan Sri Mohd Khir Johari, Tan Sri Azman Hashim, Tan Sri Khalid Abdullah, Tan Sri Elyas Omar, Tan Sri Wan Azmi Wan Hamzah, Tan Sri Razali Ismail, Tan Sri Jen (Rtd) Zain Hashim and Tan Sri Abdullah Ahmad.

Umno secretary-general Tan Sri Khalil Yaakob and permanent chairman Tan Sri Sulaiman Ninam Shah were present. Also present was incumbent vice-president Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak.

Later, about 350 students of Universiti Teknologi Mara were put through their paces for the ballot counting process.

Khalil told reporters that candidates were not allowed to distribute cards bearing their names, photographs and candidate numbers to the delegates. He said the party would hand their cards to the delegates.

"The delegates will have enough time to evaluate the candidates. If a candidate does this (distributing his cards) and there is a complaint, we will look into it," Khalil said.

"I believe the delegates already know who the candidates are as their names have appeared in the newspapers many times," he said.

Asked if there were checks made on delegates staying in hotels here, Khalil said there were.

"The majority are not in the hotels although there had been early bookings. They will come on May 9. The majority of them have listened to the president's advice," he said.

Party president Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad had advised delegates who were here earlier to return to their States and only come back on Tuesday.