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`Maintain unity via fewer contests'

IPOH, Tues. - The Perak Umno welcomes proposals which can lessen contests and strengthen unity in the party, its liaison chief and Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Tajol Rosli Ghazali said today.

Batu Gajah Umno division head Mohd Yusoff Kassim had suggested that Kelantan Umno chief Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah and incumbent Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak be given the posts of vice-presidents without contest in the May party elections.

Tajol Rosli said it was important that the posts of president, held by Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, and deputy president, to be filled by Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi, be unchallenged.

Meanwhile, Kinabalu Umno division chairman Tan Sri Kasitah Gadam said he might contest for the vice-presidency.

However, Kasitah, who is also Land and Co-operative Development Minister, said he was more concerned about unity in the party.

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