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Khalil-Umno

NOMINATIONS OF TAWAU DIVISION TO BE REFERRED TO THE SUPREME COUNCIL

KUALA LUMPUR, March 3 (Bernama) -- Umno secretary-general Tan Sri Khalil Yaakob said today that nominations of the Tawau Umno division for the vice presidency will be referred to the party's Supreme Council to determine whether the division has met the requirements.

He was commenting at a news conference on the decision of the division which held its delegates' conference yesterday to only nominate two candidates for the three posts of vice president in the party election in May.

"I would think that their nominations for the posts of president and deputy presidents are valid but those of the vice-presidency for which they only filled up two names, this matter has to be referred to the Supreme Council for a ruling," he said.

The Supreme Council is scheduled to hold its monthly meeting on Sunday.

The Tawau Umno division yesterday nominated Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad for the post of party president and Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi for the post of deputy president.

The division however only nominated Sabah Chief Minister Datuk Osu Sukam and Negeri Sembilan Menteri Besar Tan Sri Mohamed Isa Abdul Samad for the post of vice president.

A total of 165 Umno divisions are required to hold their delegates' conference this month to make nominations and elect their delegates to the Umno general assembly in May.

Khalil reminded divisions to ensure that nominations for the party election in May met the requirements of the Supreme Council and democratic principles.

This include nominating the required number of candidates, for each of the posts of president and deputy president, three posts of vice president and 25 for the Supreme Council seats.

"We want divisions to fill up names in line with the number of posts, as required," he said.

Khalil said that the same reminder applied to the Umno Youth and Wanita Umno movements now holding their delegates' conference to make their respective nominations for the posts of head and deputy head.

He said that those nominated would be asked whether they accept or reject the nomination.

Khalil said that the final list of those contesting in the party election would be out in the middle of next month.

Election for Umno's top leadership will be held on May 11, to be preceded by the Umno Youth and Wanita Umno elections.

Khalil, who is Information Minister, was also asked to comment on the government's decision to allow PAS' official organ Harakah to be published twice a month instead of twice a week previously.

"All this while, they have contravened the conditions of their permit including publishing articles which were completely out of line," he said.

The management of Harakah has also been reminded that the party could only be distributed among party members and not sold to the public.

Khalil said that as a party newsletter, Harakah should concentrate on matters affecting the party.

-- BERNAMA

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