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SHAHIDAN ONLY TO DEFEND HIS SUPREME COUNCIL SEAT

KANGAR, Jan 12 (Bernama) -- Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Shahidan Kassim said today that he will only defend his Supreme Council seat in the Umno election in May.

Shahidan, who earlier offered to be nominated for the post of Umno vice president, said that he had to withdraw as more leaders of calibre had offered themselves for nomination for the three posts of vice president.

"I offered myself as nobody else has done so then. Now, more have offered themselves," he told reporters at his office, here.

Shahidan said that from his observation, those who offered themselves to be nominated for the post of vice president were more qualified than him.

"Let me just defend my Supreme Council seat," he said.

Asked to comment on the contest for the post of president and deputy president, Shahidan said that the Perlis Umno liaison committee had already decided to nominate Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad for the post of Umno president and Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi as his deputy.

"We made the decision at the Perlis Umno liaison committee meeting on Dec 31, last year," said Shahidan who is state Umno liaison committee chairman.

-- BERNAMA

AD RM