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SUNGAI SIPUT CHIEF FAILS IN BID TO GET KU LI NOMINATED

SUNGAI SIPUT, March 19 (Bernama) -- Sungai Siput Umno division chief Datuk Mohamad Padil Harun's proposal to nominate Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah for the Umno deputy presidency was rejected when the majority of delegates opted for Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi at their meeting here today.

Padil's nomination list received 82 votes compared to the 102 votes obtained by that proposed by the division's vice-chief Haji Ahmad Fakeh Adam.

Ahmad's list also had Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad for the president's post and Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak, Datuk Dr Rais Yatim and Datuk Seri Abu Hassan for the vice-presidency.

Padil nominated Dr Mahathir for the top post and Najib, Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin and Tan Sri Muhammad Muhammad Taib for vice-president.

A total of 206 members from 63 branches attended the delegates conference. Twenty-two of them did not participate in the voting which was done by a show of hands.

In his speech, Padil said the deputy president's post should be contested because it is now vacant.

"Anyone holding that post should be tested on his ability because he is the next in line to the party presidency," he said.

-- BERNAMA
HAK MAI YBY