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SYED HAMID GRATEFUL FOR VEEP NOMINATIONS

KOTA KINABALU, March 21 (Bernama) -- Foreign Minister Datuk Seri Syed Hamid Albar, with 13 nominations at hand for the Umno vice-presidency, said he valued the divisions' decision in proposing him for the party's third highest post.

"We must be thankful to any nomination made by the divisions," he told reporters after delivering a talk on "International Relations in the Era of Globalisation: Roles for Sabah" here today.

Asked to comment on the number of nominations he received thus far, he said: "I shouldn't complain...although there are many things that I can say I am unhappy with, but that is the nature of politics, I have to live with it."

He was also asked to comment on the trend of nominating Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad and his deputy Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi who have received almost 100 per cent nominations for the presidency and deputy presidency.

He said: "The fact is, no one at the grassroots level has ever said they like to see that (two) positions contested.

"When a choice is to be made for stability and unity, we avoid conflicts and this is translated in the wisdom of the decision of the divisions," he added.

-- BERNAMA

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