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Tajol Rosli hopes view on Razaleigh is acceptable

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SERI ISKANDAR, Mon. - Perak Umno chief Datuk Seri Tajol Rosli Ghazali is hopeful that the remaining 21 Umno divisions in the State will take up his proposal to nominate Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah for vice-president.

However, he said, they need not abide by the proposal he made along with the Menteri Besar of Perlis and Kedah, that divisions in the three States nominate Tengku Razaleigh as vice-president if they did not want to.

"What is important is they adhere to the decision by the Perak Umno to nominate Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad as president and the Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi as deputy president."

Speaking to reporters after laying the foundation stone of the Perak Tengah new police administrative complex and quarters, Tajol Rosli said division leaders should also abide by the State Umno decision to nominate Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak as one of the elected vice-presidents.

He was commenting on the decision by the Batu Gajah division at its meeting yesterday not to nominate Tengku Razaleigh.

Instead, the division nominated Najib, Johor Umno chief Datuk Abdul Ghani Othman and Negri Sembilan Umno leader Tan Sri Mohd Isa Abdul Samad. The move by the Batu Gajah division, apart from not taking up the proposal by its own State liaison chief, was also an about turn on its part.

It had been the first division to propose that Najib and Tengku Razaleigh be nominated for vice-president uncontested.

Tajol Rosli had earlier said the move to nominate Tengku Razaleigh for vice-president was the "best compromise" to unite Umno members and giving Tengku Razaleigh the opportunity to hold a high party post.

He himself, however, managed to deliver the nomination for vice-president to Tengku Razaleigh through the Grik division which he heads, yesterday.

Some of the leaders, he said, might have "their own strategies" in not wanting to nominate Tengku Razaleigh for the post of vice-president, but he said he had confidence in them to make the "right choices".

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