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Umno to decide based on report

Abdul Razak Ahmad

KUALA LUMPUR, Wed. - Umno will decide whether the decision of the Gua Musang delegates to leave the nomination for vice-presidents to the divisional committee is valid once it receives a report from the division.

The party's management and disciplinary committee chairman Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said the divisional meeting which was held on March 31 was, however, valid, though it did not nominate anyone for the positions.

Abdullah, who is vice-president discharging the duties of deputy president, said this at a Press conference after chairing the committee meeting today.

The Gua Musang division had nominated Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad and Abdullah for the posts of president and deputy president respectively.

However, the meeting decided to entrust the task of nominating those for vice-presidents to the division committee.

The division is headed by Kelantan Umno chief Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah, who has so far secured 16 nominations for the party's three third highest posts and needs another nomination to qualify as a candidate. Abdullah said the move by the Gua Musang division was not discussed at today's meeting because it did not receive any report on the matter.

"We will decide when the division submits a report on the matter to our headquarters," he said.

He reminded all 164 divisions which had held their delegates' meetings since March 2 to inform party headquarters as soon as possible on all decisions and nominations they had made.

Only one division - Bandar Tun Razak in the Federal Territory - has postponed its delegates' meeting to Friday due to some misunderstanding.

Another issue discussed today was whether members who had been reinstated after expulsion had to wait for two years before being eligible to contest party positions.

Abdullah said the party constitution only stated that party members needed a minimum of two years membership to qualify for contest for any party post.

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