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# Dollah and I do not back any candidate: Mahathir

IPOH, Sat: Umno president Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today that neither he nor his deputy, Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi support or oppose any candidate in the on-going party divisional elections.

The prime minister said every candidate should conduct campaigns based on his performance and not rely on certain "names" (to improve their chances).

"Obviously, I want the best (candidates) ... including those who do not resort to tactics which are not allowed," he told reporters when asked about statements made by certain candidates that they are being backed by Mahathir or Abdullah.

On the position of Beserah assemblyman Datuk Fauzi Abdul Rahman, Mahathir said the party will evaluate the reports from the special committee on the allegations before deciding on the course of action.

Fauzi submitted his resignation let-

ter as state assemblyman, to Pahang Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Adnan Yaakob last Friday, claiming money politics and manipulation resulted in him losing support in Kuantan Umno division which he heads.

In Gua Musang, Kelantan, later today, Mahathir said he will look into complaints that the quota system introduced by the party for aspirants vying for seats at the divisional levels contributed to money politics, **Sulaiman Jaafar** reports.

Mahathir said he is prepared to examine every view to make things better in Umno.

"At present, I can only say that I will look into the matter," he told a press conference after opening the Gua Musang Umno division meeting here.

Mahathir was asked to comment on Gua Musang Umno chief Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah's speech during the opening ceremony that members felt the quota system led to money politics.