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Faisal queried by panel on money politics allegations

KUANTAN, Fri. - Kuantan Umno vice-chairman Datuk Faisal Abdullah has been questioned by the special Umno committee on allegations of money politics in the division's branch meetings on three occasions.

He said he had passed all the information he knew to the committee which was formed by the party's supreme council to investigate the allegations.

"The meetings, each lasting 1 1/2 hours, went on in a transparent manner.

"As a loyal party member, I am prepared to face the consequences if there is truth in the allegation by division chairman Datuk Fauzi Abdul Rahman."

Faisal is one of the three candidates nominated by the 65 Umno branches in Kuantan division to contest for the division's top post.

Fauzi and division deputy chairman Datuk Wan Adnan Wan Mamat have also been nominated.

Faisal has the highest number of nominations with 31 followed by Wan Adnan (24) and Fauzi (10).

In his letter to State Umno chief Datuk Seri Adnan Yaakob on March 30 offering to resign as the Beserah State Assemblyman, Fauzi alleged that the outcome of the branch nominations was influenced by money politics.

He also said he felt that his service as a wakil rakyat was no longer needed as a majority of the Umno branches in Beserah did not nominate him to defend the top post.

Umno president Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, after chairing the party's supreme council meeting on March 31, announced the setting up of an ad-hoc committee to investigate Fauzi's allegations.

The supreme council also decided to put on hold the Kuantan Umno division meeting until the investigation has been completed.

Faisal said he was confident that the committee would be fair to everybody in its investigation.

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