

31 MAR 2001

Fauzi-Welcome

FAUZI HAILS MOVE TO SET UP PANEL TO PROBE HIS ALLEGATIONS

KUANTAN, March 31 (Bernama) -- Beserah state assemblyman Datuk Fauzi Abdul Rahman has welcomed the Umno Supreme Council's decision today to set up a special ad hoc committee to probe his allegations of money politics and abuses in the Pahang government.

"I welcome the move, I'm very happy and I am thankful to the Umno president (Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad).

"The action I took to open the eyes of Umno leaders to the abuses and corruption has succeeded in opening their eyes," he said when contacted shortly after the supreme council meeting.

Yesterday, Fauzi said he was vacating the Beserah state seat, which is under the Kuantan parliamentary constituency, after the majority of the Umno branches did not nominate him to defend his post as the Kuantan Umno chairman in the divisional elections next month.

He alleged that he was not nominated because of money politics.

Fauzi has also lodged a police report against Umno secretary-general Tan Sri Khalil Yaakub on alleged irregularities in the management of state resources in Pahang when Khalil was the Menteri Besar.

Dr Mahathir told reporters after chairing today's supreme council meeting that the special committee would be set up by the party's disciplinary committee and its members would comprise neutral individuals.

He also said that the Kuantan Umno division's delegates meeting would be postponed until the investigation was completed.

Asked what he thought about the postponement, Fauzi said he abided by the supreme council's decision.

-- BERNAMA

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