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My activities are transparent, says Faisal

KUANTAN, Sat. - Kuantan Umno vice-chairman Datuk Faisal Abdullah said today his activities in Koperasi Belia Pahang are transparent.

"There is nothing for me to hide in the co-operative," he said when confirming the visit by an Anti-Corruption Agency officer to the co-operative's office in Jalan Abdul Aziz on Wednesday. The officer took away the co-operative's account statements for 1999 and 2000.

Faisal said he would co-operate with the authorities to facilitate their investigation.

Besides being the chairman of the co-operative, Faisal is also a Malaysian 4B Youth Movement vice-president, Pahang Youth Council president and Kuantan Youth Council president.

He is one of the three candidates nominated by the 65 Umno branches in Kuantan division to contest for the division's top post currently held by Datuk Fauzi Abdul Rahman.

Fauzi, and the division's deputy chairman Datuk Wan Adnan Wan Mamat, have also been nominated. Faisal has the highest nomination with 31 followed by Wan Adnan (24) and Fauzi (10).

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

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

A day earlier, Fauzi lodged a police report against Umno secretary-general Tan Sri Khalil Yaakob on alleged misappropriation of the State's wealth during his tenure as Pahang Menteri Besar.

However, Pahang police chief Datuk Mohamad Noor Hamat said police had passed the report to the ACA as it was more proper for the agency to conduct the investigation.

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 had been completed.

Faisal had on Wednesday confirmed that a member of the Umno disciplinary committee had queried him over the allegations of money politics.

Meanwhile, Wan Adnan said he would give his full co-operation to the ad-hoc committee set up by Umno.

"I have requested all Umno branches in Kuantan, regardless of who they have nominated for the top post in the division, to also give their co-operation."

Wan Adnan said if there were allegations of money politics against him, they should be supported with evidence.

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