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Umno-Perak

RAMLI NGAH TALIB RETAINS POST IN PASIR SALAK

IPOH, April 15 (Bernama) -- Deputy Transport Minister Tan Sri Ramli Ngah Talib was returned as head of the Pasir Salak Umno division after beating his deputy Tan Sri Megat Junid Megat Ayob with a majority of 11 votes at the division's delegates meeting today.

Ramli, who had been heading the division for the past 23 years, polled 202 votes while Megat Junid, who was the former Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs Minister, garnered 91 votes.

Megat Junid, who was the division's deputy head since 1987, decided to challenge Ramli for the first time, making the contest one of the firecest in the state Umno elections today.

Meanwhile, Tajuddin Abdul Rahman, who was once known as the "Six Million Dollar Man", won the post of deputy head, vacated by Megat Junid, uncontested.

Committee member Ibrahim Katop won the post of vice-head when he polled 212 votes, beating committee member Ahmad Mat Sidi who polled 178 votes.

The post was vacated by State Assemblyman for Sg Manik Datuk Seri Nazri Abdul Rahim.

At the division's Youth delegates meeting yesterday, former committee member Zainol Fadzli Paharuddin won the post of Youth head, defeating former Youth information head for the division, Zainal Anwar Abdul Rashid.

Zainol Fadli received 158 votes while Zainal Anwar had 72 votes. The post was vacated by Ayub Mohamed who decided not to seek re-election.

The post of vice-head went to Megat Junid's former Press Secretary Hanim Abdul Malek who polled 117 votes to beat challenger Nasarunnasir Alias who had 110 votes.

State Exco for Rural and Community Development Ainon Khariyah Datuk Mohd Abas was returned unopposed as the division's Wanita Umno head.

Meanwhile national sprinter Watson Nyambek's personal coach, Mumtaz Jaffar failed in her bid for the post of vice-head of the Pasir Salak Wanita Umno movement.

She polled 125 votes while Salaiah Shaarani garnered 171 votes to win the post.

Meanwhile, in his winding-up speech at the meeting, Ramli said he would resign as Deputy Transport Minister should he fail to defend his post but would strive to close ranks in the Umno division should he be returned.

At the press conference after the results were announced, he described the contest today as "very close" but he was satisfied that there had been no cases of extreme tension.

"Every contestant had left it to the delegates to decide. Thus, the winners and losers in the election must accept the decision," he said.

Ramli said his next move was to strive to close ranks with the members in the division and "make whatever corrections necessary."

However, he said he had no suggestions yet to create a position for Megat Junid.

In Gopeng, Deputy Education Minister Datuk Abdul Aziz Shamsuddin failed in his bid to recapture the Gopeng Umno division head's post when he only received 129 votes as against 135 votes polled by incumbent head Mustapha Kamal Nawi at its delegates meeting.

Abdul Aziz was the division head for three terms before being defeated by Mustapha Kamal in the 1993 party election.

Meanwhile, incumbent deputy head Hamzah Mohd Kassim failed to defend

his post in the three-cornered fight.

The post was won by Sungai Itik Umno branch head Azmi Mohd Nasir who polled 106 votes, beating Hamzah who managed to secure only 71 votes and former deputy head of the division, Toh Sedewa Raja Abdul Talib Fahmi who received 84 votes.

Incumbent vice-head Haji Abdul Mukti Abdul Rahman retained his post in another three-cornered fight when he polled 113 votes, beating Abdul Rahman Othman (109 votes) and Haji Ahmad bin Lazim (41 votes).

Two division heads, Datuk Dr Abdul Malek Hanafiah (Taiping) and Senator Datuk Hamzah Zainuddin (Ipoh Barat) retained their posts uncontested.

In Ipoh Barat, incumbent deputy head Shamsuddin Abdul Ghaffar and vice-head Abdul Ghani Ngah also retained their posts after beating their challengers.

Shamsuddin polled 103 votes to beat Mahathir Ahmad bin Ahmad Ayob who only garnered 77 votes.

Abdul Ghani polled 107 votes to beat challenger Mohamad Hamdan Datuk Ahmad who received 72 votes.

In Taiping, deputy head Anjang Abdul Rahman Mat also retained his post uncontested.

Dr Mohd Sallehin Abu Bakar retained his post as vice-head by beating challengers Mohamed Desa Ibrahim and Ashahar Khalid.

So far 11 of the 23 Umno divisions in the state have held their delegates meeting with all the 11 division heads retaining their posts including eight who were returned unopposed.

The eight division heads who were returned unopposed are Hamzah (Ipoh Barat), Abdul Malek (Taiping), Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Tajol Rosli Ghazali (Gerik), Che Onn Hamzah (Teluk Intan), Datuk Ahmad Zahid Hamidi (Bagan Datoh), Datuk Ramly Zahari (Kuala Kangsar), Datuk Zaim Abu Hassan (Parit) and Datuk Mohd Yusoff Kassim (Batu Gajah).

-- BERNAMA.

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