

03/07/2002

Most of PBB top brass returned unopposed

Sulok Tawie

KUCHING, Tues. - Chief Minister Tan Sri Abdul Taib Mahmud and other top leaders of Parti Pesaka Bumiputra Bersatu won their respective positions uncontested when nomination for the party posts closed yesterday.

Taib received nominations from all the 62 divisions for the party presidency.

Tan Sri Alfred Jabu Numpang, who is Deputy Chief Minister, and Datuk Seri Abang Johari Tun Abang Openg, who is State Tourism Minister, were returned unopposed as deputy presidents.

State Agriculture and Food Industries Minister Datuk Seri Adenan Satem and former State Housing Minister Datuk Celestine Ujang both retained their posts as senior vice-presidents.

The others who retained their vice-president posts uncontested, are Petra Jaya MP, Tan Sri Dr Sulaiman Daud, Deputy Federal Foreign Minister Datuk Leo Michael Toyad, State Housing Minister Datuk Michael Manyin Jawong, businessman Datuk Stephen Timothy Wan Ullok and Federal Agriculture Minister Datuk Effendi Norwawi.

A total of 32 names have been nominated to contest 20 seats in the supreme council.

The list of nominations for the various party posts was released by the PBB election organising committee chairman Datuk Asfia Awang Nassar at the PBB headquarters here today.

PBB will hold its triennial delegates convention this weekend. The party will hold its election this Saturday.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir has been invited to declare open the convention.

The convention, expected to be attended by about 1,000 delegates and observers, was postponed from last year due to the State elections.

Deputy Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Datuk Douglas Uggah Embah was the only one nominated for the PBB Youth chief.

Incumbent Youth chief, Datuk Gramong Juna, who is also the State Assistant Minister of Land and Rural Development, declined to seek re-election for the post.

State Assemblyman for Asajaya Abdul Karim Hamzah's was also the only candidate for the PBB Youth deputy leader while the incumbent, the State Assistant Minister in the Chief Minister's Office Datuk Awang Tengah Ali Hasan, is no longer eligible to hold the post as he is over the age of 45 years.

Four names were received for the Youth's three vice-head posts. They are Mikai Mandau and Martin Ben (both incumbents), Munded Banai and State Assemblyman for Pantai Damai Dr Abdul Rahman Junaidi.

Meanwhile, State Assistant Minister for Welfare and Women's Affairs Datin Paduka Sharifah Mordiah Tuanku Fauzi was returned unopposed as head of Wanita PBB.

The others, who were also returned unopposed, are deputy leader Puan Seri Empiang Antak and vice heads Rohani Abdul Karim, Madinah Tun Abang Openg and Datin Seri Ngau Ngo. All the 15 incumbent committee members of Wanita PBB were also returned unopposed.

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