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Umno-New

FOUR NEW FACES PLEDGE FULL COMMITMENT

KOTA BAHARU, Nov 23 (bernama) -- Four new faces appointed as pro tem division chiefs in Kelantan have pledged full commitment to the party.

They viewed their appointments as a major duty that must be carried out to ensure victory for Umno and survival of the Malays in the state.

Datuk Ahmad Rusli Ibrahim, who now heads the Kubang Kerian division, succeeding Tuan Mohd Hashim Tuan Yaacob, said the appointment would enable him to continue with the party's struggle.

"The confidence placed in me will enable me to move more actively to restore Umno's glorious days in Kelantan," he said when contacted.

Asked on the possibility of a split in the division following his appointment, he said the matter did not arise as the appointment was a continuity in the efforts by the Umno leadership to implement political reforms.

"If Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad (former Prime Minister) whom we love can make way for Abdullah, why we at the division level cannot accept. The party wants to see changes, we must be prepared to change," he said.

Datuk Abdul Rahim Abdul Rahman, who has been appointed pro tem head of Pasir Mas Umno division, succeeding Datuk Paduka Ibrahim Ali, said changes made by the party leadership were purely to introduce political reforms.

"As a good friend of Ibrahim, I hope he will continue to give his close cooperation as he has been giving all this while to ensure Umno's victory, especially in Pasir Mas.

"The trust given to me is a heavy responsibility which I'm prepared to shoulder. God Willing, with the cooperation and support of Pasir Mas Umno members, we're confident of winning the three state seats under the Pasir Mas parliamentary seat," he said.

Bachok Umno division pro tem chief Datuk Dr Awang Adek Hussin said he would continue the good work of his predecessor Datuk Ahmad Shahibuddin Mohd Noor for the last 27 years he had helmed the division.

He said Ahmad Shahibuddin had been the prime mover who would surely have the clout to strengthen the party to ensure Umno's success, particularly in the next general election.

"I thank the party leadership, especially Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi, for his confidence in me to head the division. I promise to work hard to realise the party's aspirations," he said.

Newly appointed Kuala Krai Umno division pro tem head Datuk Ramzi Abdul Rahman, who replaced Datuk Wan Zaid Wan Abdullah, thanked the supreme council for having the trust in him to lead the division.

He said this was a heavy responsibility he had to shoulder and needed the support of party members in the division.

"I will call for a division meeting after Hari Raya Aidilfitri and will meet the youth, wanita and Puteri movements to draw up a work programme to face the next general election.

"What's more important is the determination to work hard to wrest the four PAS-held state seats -- Mengkebang, Guchil, Manik Urai and Dabong -- under the Kuala Krai parliamentary constituency," he added.

-- BERNAMA

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