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Muhyiddin-Umno

UMNO YOUTH AND PUTERI LEADERS TO KEEP POSTS DESPITE AGE BARRIER

KUALA LUMPUR, Aug 1 (Bernama) -- Umno Youth and Puteri Umno divisional office-bearers will be allowed to hold their posts in their respective movement's pro tem committees despite passing the age barrier of 40 for Umno Youth and 35 for Puteri Umno, said Umno vice-president Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin.

He said that the decision to allow the Umno Youth and Puteri Umno division leaders to hold their respective positions in the party's pro tem committees was decided at the Umno Supreme Council meeting chaired by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, who is Umno president, yesterday.

"The decision made for the pro tem committees is only transitional until the party elections next year. In the meantime, the Youth and Puteri division leaders can retain their positions even if they have passed the entitlement age," he told reporters after opening the Carrefour Cheras outlet here today.

Yesterday, Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi, who is deputy Umno president, announced that the party would dissolve all 165 Umno divisions and would appoint pro tem committees for the existing divisions and 25 new ones that would be set up following the electoral redelineation exercise.

Abdullah said that the pro tem committees could be made up of either incumbents or new faces, who would be in charge until the party elections next year. The dissolution and pro tem committee appointments would include the Youth, Wanita and Puteri movements.

In June, the Dewan Rakyat passed the Federal Constitution (Amendment) Bill, followed by the Dewan Negara in July, which would lead to the creation of 25 new parliamentary constituencies, bringing the total to 219, from 194.

Muhyiddin, who is the Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs Minister, said that the move to allow Youth and Puteri division leaders to hold their positions was to enable them to perform their duties until next year.

"The Supreme Council allowed them to hold the positions because we do not want discontinuity in the way a certain Youth or Puteri division is run. It is important that we try to keep things intact especially with the general election just round the corner," he said.

He also said that the whole process of setting up pro tem committees at the divisional levels would be completed by the end of the month.

-- BERNAMA

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