

10 JUL 2004

Youth-Mukhriz

MUKHRIZ NOT READY TO CONTEST FOR UMNO YOUTH VICE HEAD

ALOR STAR, July 10 (Bernama) -- Datuk Mukhriz Tun Dr Mahathir said he is not yet ready to accept and run for the position of Umno Youth Vice Head in the party's election in September.

"For the time being, I'm concentrating more on the Youth Exco post where I see a brighter chance of winning. Let those who are older and with more experience in the movement contest for the vice head post.

"I haven't thought about running for vice head and I won't campaign for the position," he said when contacted by Bernama today.

Mukhriz, son of former Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad, received nomination for the post from the Kubang Pasu Umno Youth Division which held its delegates conference yesterday.

In the conference, Mukhriz, 40, lost the contest for the divisional chief's post to Zulkifli @ Md Ros Ahmad who obtained 141 votes to Mukhriz's 132.

Aside from Mukhriz and Datuk Azimi Daim who each received a nomination, another person nominated for the vice head post was Khairy Jamaluddin who received 21 nominations.

Mukhriz said he had received phone calls from friends and those he did not know, asking him to run for the Youth vice head post.

"Although I was pressed to run for vice head, I have to first see the rationale of those who urged me to run for the post," he said.

On the Kubang Pasu Umno Youth Division's delegates conference results, Mukhriz said he readily accepted the outcome.

He said losing would not deter him from continuing to serve the people of the area.

"During my short campaign stint I've met and talked to the youths and elders there and I've identified a few problems involving education, entrepreneurship and poverty.

"I will be returning to Kubang Pasu regularly to extend my services and

help the people the best I can," he said, adding that he would help resolve their problems with the cooperation and assistance of the Kubang Pasu Umno Youth.

-- BERNAMA

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