

DO-OR-DIE FOR THE No. 2 POST

Bahan asal dari Arkib
Negara Malaysia



TENGGU RAZALEIGH
... 'matter of principle'



DATUK MUSA ... last-minute change of mind

BOTH RAZALEIGH AND MUSA GO FOR BROKE

KUALA LUMPUR, Tues. — Finance Minister Tengku Razaleigh Hamzah and Education Minister Datuk Musa Hitam are both going for broke — they are contesting only the Umno deputy presidency in the party election on June 26.

Tengku Razaleigh submitted his acceptance papers for contesting the post on Friday, but it was kept secret until today.

Datuk Musa's papers were submitted this morning by his political secretary Encik Ajib Ahmad to Umno secretary-general Datuk Mustafa Jabar at Umno headquarters.

The deadline for nominations closed at 4.30p.m. today.

In the morning, Encik Ajib submitted Datuk Musa's acceptance papers for the deputy presidency as well as a Supreme Council post.

In a surprise move, he withdrew Datuk Musa's acceptance papers for election to the Supreme Council in the afternoon — at about 4p.m., 30 minutes before the deadline.

The reason for this last minute change of decision was not clear.

Encik Ajib told reporters Datuk Musa would be making a full state-

**MAHATHIR GETS
TOP POST: P2**
**Tan Chee Khoo on the
man who will be the
next Prime Minister: P14**

ment "in a few days" on his stand.

Datuk Musa, who was in Johore for an audience with the Sultan, told reporters in Johore Baru his statement would clarify his position.

The clash between the two senior Ministers will decide who will be the next Deputy Prime Minister once Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir moves up to the Prime Ministership.

Datuk Hussein Onn is expected to step down as Prime Minister on July 10, and Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir sworn in.

The political futures of Tengku Razaleigh and Datuk Musa will be decided by the coming contest.

The Finance Minister had said much earlier that he would contest only the deputy presidency and resign from the Cabinet if he lost.

"It is a matter of principle. I believe that if a leader does not enjoy the support of the party members, then he should not be in government," he had said.

Datuk Musa had announced on May 24 that he would be contesting the deputy presidency as he believed "Umno members should be given an alternative."

He, however, left open the question of whether he would be going for any other post as well.

The coming contest will be the first time in Umno's history that party delegates would be choosing the man who is almost guaranteed to be appointed Deputy Prime Minister.

In the past, the deputy president had usually been voted in as he was already the Deputy Prime Minister.

Tengku Razaleigh, at 44, is three years younger than Datuk Musa, but was in the party's decision-making structure ahead of the Education Minister.

He was elected to the Supreme Council in 1963 and became one of the three vice-presidents in 1975.

In the last party election three years ago, he emerged as first vice-president when he polled the highest number of votes — virtually confirming him then as the number three in the party behind Datuk Hussein and Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir.

Tengku Razaleigh, who is also Kelantan Umno chief, is now said to be ahead in the East Coast states of Kelantan, Pahang and Trengganu and in Negri Sembilan.

Datuk Musa is said to be ahead in Johore, his home-state, Malacca and Kedah. The rest of the states are said to be up for grabs.

The Education Minister first entered politics as the political secretary to former Transport Minister Tun Haji Sardon Jubir.

He later contested a by-election and joined Parliament as an MP. He was appointed Deputy Commerce and Industry Minister by former Prime Minister Tunku Abdul Rahman and served under the late Tun Dr Ismail.

The Tunku later removed him

from his government post — at about the same time Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir was expelled from the party — and he went to Sussex to read for his Master's degree in International Relations.

He later returned and became a lecturer in the University of Malaya before entering politics again — apparently at the request of former Prime Minister the late Tun Abdul Razak.

Subsequently, he was appointed Primary Industries Minister and after the 1978 election, Datuk Hussein appointed him Education Minister.

In a recent interview with the Utusan Malaysia, Datuk Musa virtually endorsed Tengku Razaleigh's earlier statement that a leader without the support of the party should not be in government.

The stand taken by

MUSA 'TO GO FOR BROKE'



THAT NOW THEY ENDED THAT YAWN

Get the most out of your dollar at Kuala Lumpur

MUSA LEMPAH
Tuan — Education
Datuk Seri Dr
Musa

MUSA'S PLANS . . . as revealed in an exclusive *Star* report on May 20.

both contenders means that the Cabinet to be headed by Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir will lose the services of one of them unless Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir can persuade them to remain in government.

One way for Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir to do this could be by appointing the loser to the party Supreme Council.

(The Umno constitution allows the party president to appoint seven nominees to the Council, which has

20 elected members).

Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir has already advised candidates and their porters not to get personal in their statements and to step down the campaign as "Umno delegates already know the qualities and capabilities of them."

Datuk Musa said in Johore today he welcomed this advice and said he would heed it. He added that it applied to candidates who are testing for posts in party elections.

both personal and ready and Jo-hore he added all con-the